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RUSSELL ERRETT, Editor.

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☞ Communications designed for publication should be addressed to the Editor.
☞ Letters on Business, Subscription, &c., address COMMERCIAL, Pittsburgh.

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The Pittsburgh Commercial.

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The Daily and Weekly Commercial—NEWSPAPER DECISIONS.—1. Any one who takes a paper regularly from the Postoffice, whether directed to his name or another's, or whether he has subscribed or not, is responsible for the payment.
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FIRST EDITION.

HARRISBURG.

ENNSYLVANIA LEGISLATURE.

ICENSE BILL PASSED BY BOTH HOUSES.

so the Supplement to the Wallace Bill.

FEAT OF THE JUDICIAL SALARY BILL.

Solution of Censure on Mr. Wolfe Unanimously Expunged.

th Houses in Session at Midnight.

SENATE.

cial Dispatch to the Commercial.

HARRISBURG, PA., March 17, 1875.

The Senate adopted the report of the nference Committee on the supplement an act, entitled "An act dividing the es of this State into three classes, regung the passage of ordinances providing contracts for supplies and work for said es, authorizing the increase of indebtess and the creation of a sinking fund redeem the same, defining and punishcertain offenses in all of said cities, and viding for the incorporation and govment of cities of the third class," approved May 23, A. D. 1874.

he Boom bill was read the first time.

he report of the Conference Committee the License bill was adopted—27 to 20, follows:

Yeas—Messrs. Alexander, Anderson, of egheny, Anderson, of Crawford, Chalh, Cooper, Crouse, Cutler, Davis, Dunn, Heilman, Herr, Horter, Jones, Lamon, non, Maclay, McMullen, McNeill, Na- Payne, Playford, Rockwell, Roebuck, ream, Wood, Yeakle and Yutzy—27.

Nays—Messrs. Albright, Bechtel, Bus-, Chestnut, Clark, Colihan, Dill, Ermet, Jackson, McKibben, McKinley, awyer, Rowland, Rutan, Shimer, Stanong, Watson, Winslow and Yerkes 20.

he following House bills passed finally:

supplement to an act to regulate the ner of increasing the indebtedness of nicipalities, to provide for the redempn of the same, and to impose penalties the illegal increase thereof, approved 20th day of April, A. D. 1874, amendthe sixth section thereof.

oint resolution providing for the pay- t of the expenses of serving writ of elecon to fill vacancy in the district composed of the county of Berks.

oint resolution providing for the pay- t of the expenses of serving the writ f election to fill vacancy in the Third dis- t of Philadelphia.

oint resolution providing for the pay- t of the expenses of serving the writ f election to fill vacancy in the district posed of the county of Centre.

n act to provide for the settlement of claim of Emanuel Peters.

n act to provide for the current exses of the Board of Public Charities.

oint resolution.

n act making an appropriation for pen- s and gratuities.

oint resolution providing for the print- of additional copies of the reports of Board of Commissioners of the Geolog- Survey of Pennsylvania.

n act to provide for the expenses re- ed by an act, entitled "An act to pro- for the continuance of the education maintenance of the destitute orphans deceased soldiers and sailors, and destitute children of permanently dis- d soldiers and sailors of the State," ap- ed April 9, 1867.

oint resolution providing for the pay- t of expenses of serving writ of elec- to fill vacancy in the district composed he county of Armstrong.

oint resolution providing for the pay- t of expenses of serving writ of elecfill the vacancy in the district com- d of the county of Washington.

n act to provide for the publication of enth volume of the transactions of the e Agricultural Society.

n act to reimburse W. G. Taylor, Superndent of the Soldiers' Orphan school Phillipsburg, Beaver county, Pennsylfor clothing, transportation and fu- l expenses of soldiers' orphans.

n act in relation to the payment of the s and expenses of the division of elecdistricts.

further supplement to an act to estabn system of free banking in Pennsylia, and to secure the public against m insolvent banks, approved March 1860.

n act authorizing and regulating the ing of local appropriations to schools monly known as homes for friendless ren.

NOTARIES CONFIRMED.

e Senate confirmed the following no- s: John McClaren, E. McCandless, Thomas Hindman, William McNair, F. W. Smith, C. R. Newmyer, F. ervas, J. S. Young, J. Soffel, West furray, H. F. Dunham, J. M. Taylor, Monroe, J. L. Stephenson and J. H. ngs.

e House bill for the removal of county s, was lost for want of a constitutional jority—23 to 17.

Half-past eleven the Senate is still in on, considering amended bills.

HOUSE.

e House met at ten o'clock.

. Plummer, from the Conference Com- ee on the bill for the establishment of counties, reported that the committee unable to agree and asked to be dised from further consideration of the ject. The motion was agreed to, and a committee was appointed, consisting ssrs. Gunster, Hannan and Tracy.

e following passed finally:

n act requiring recorders of deeds to in their respective offices general, di- and *adsectum* index of deeds and gages recorded therein, prescribing ties of said recorders, and declaring the entries in said general index shall otice to all persons.

supplement to an act relative to for- re of charters or grants of special or ssive privileges for railroad, turnpike plankroad corporations, approved May 874, prescribing the manner in which corporations shall consent to hold their ers subject to the provisions of the titution adopted December 16, 1873.

act to punish persons for carrying aled weapons within this Commonth.

act to repeal the first section of an act ive to the appointment of sealers of hts and measures, approved the 20th of February, 1872, so far as the same es to the appointment of such officer in for the county of Dauphin.

int resolution providing for a special mittee to make an investigation into affairs of the Philadelphia and Read- Railroad Company and the Philadel- and Reading Coal and Iron Company.

n act authorizing common carriers, facommission merchants and other per- to sell goods, wares, merchandise, bagand other property unclaimed or perble upon which they have a lien.

act to prevent the sale of intoxicating ors, and for the preservation of order ldiers' encampments and reunions.

act to provide for the erection of r troughs for the use of horses and e on the public roads of this Commonth.

act to amend an act, entitled "An o authorize married women owning s of the Commonwealth or of the city Philadelphia, or capital stock of any oration of this Commonwealth, to sell transfer the same," approved the 1st of April, A. D. 1874, extending the isions of said act so as to include the s as well as the capital stock of corions of this Commonwealth.

nt resolution to provide for the pay- t of B. F. Burroughs, engineer, and el Best and Wm. McGuire, firemen, ervices rendered from October 1st to mber 1st, 1874, under direction of the f Clerk.

act to authorize the Attorney Gen- Auditor General and State Treasurer ttle all outstanding claims due for done and material furnished the Conntional Convention.

Petroff, from the Committee of Conce on the Local Option bill, submitted port and a copy of the bill as amended he committee. The report was read.

Talley moved that the House adopt eport of the committee.

discussion arose about typographical ikes in the bill. The previous quesn was finally called and sustained.

debate having thus been cut off, Long, of Allegheny, jumped to his and protested vigorously, in the name constituents, denouncing the bill as edied by the Committee of Conference, rick, fraud and sham. It virtually t free whisky, as fifty dollars would e actual rate for licenses. It could be determined at this time whether bill applied to Allegheny. The comse themselves could not tell. But if so apply, he denounced it as a fraud people, as it would cut down the nues of his county tens of thousands ollars, and let whisky flow freely. le willing to vote for an honest, fairly administered license law, as the y understood the circumstances attainhe would oppose with all his power fraud on the people; and he sted against its passage as an ous measure. He yesterday voted for bill, but the Conference Committee, r the manipulations of paid lobbyists, e emasculated it and made it simply de-

testable. No one here appears to know where the bill applies, or whether the old law of 1856 is repealed or not. No opportunity was given for debate, but the measure was put through with a whirl and amid a storm of protests.

The report of the Conference Committee was then adopted—yeas 122, nays 68.

The vote on the act fixing the salaries of the judges of the Supreme Court, of the several Judicial districts and of separate orphans' courts, was yeas 99, nays 95.

A motion was made to reconsider the above vote, which was laid on the table—yeas 97, nays 98, which defeats the bill.

Mr. Lusk, Democrat, offered a resolution expunging from the record the vote of censure made at the beginning of the session against Chas. S. Wolfe, of Union, which was unanimously carried.

Mr. Wolfe made a feeling and complimentary speech, returning his thanks, and the best of feeling prevailed.

The House again met at half-past seven P. M.

The bill fixing the salaries of officers of Philadelphia, Allegheny and Luzerne counties has failed for the session.

At 12 o'clock the House is hard at work upon bills, with every prospect of an all night session.

PRESENTATIONS.

Gen. Hartshorne and other Democrats of the House have presented Mr. Christy with a gold-headed cane. A magnificent cane was also presented to Hon. T. Robb Deyarmon by his friends in the Legislature.

TILTON-BEECHER.

TESTIMONY OF MRS. TILTON'S NURSE.

Rev. Mr. Gay Describes Tilton's Lecture on "Home, Sweet Home."

The Legislature Kills the Bill to Permit Wives to Testify for Themselves.

Miss Lovejoy's Brother-in-Law Starts After Beecher's Lawyers.

NEW YORK, March 17.—Notwithstanding this is St. Patrick's day, and beautiful out doors, the Brooklyn court room was crowded when the cause of Theodore Tilton against the Rev. Henry Ward Beecher was called. All the parties to the suit were present, and among the attentive listeners were many women.

Assistant Pastor Halliday resumed the stand and testified: I remember the interview I had with Tilton at my house the morning of the 18th of November, for the first time in a few months; Tilton and myself were present, but Geo. A. Bell called shortly after. Bell told me his errand and turned to go, when Tilton said, "George, don't go." Tilton then said he had called by the advice of his friend, Frank Moulton, to contradict the Woodhull scandal. He said it was entirely untrue —without a shadow of truth. He said it was just as false as if he would go over to New York and say the tree in front of Halliday's house was covered with five hundred flags, representing every nation of the earth; he said his wife was as pure as light, and for me to ask Beecher and he would tell me she was as pure as gold. Tilton would not specify any charges, although I repeatedly asked him to do so; Tilton said that Moulton had documents relating to the charges insinuated against Beecher; Tilton spoke of the Woodhull publication as a fabrication; he said he wrote her life for the purpose of keeping her still, and stated that he was campaigning in New Hampshire when this publication appeared, and was utterly astounded when he heard of it being published; Tilton said that if Beecher would go to church and tell hearers of the offense, it was so slight that they would overlook it; he spoke of Beecher's offense as being quite venial in its character.

Mr. Evarts asked for a suspension of the examination of this witness, to call Mrs. Lucy W. Mitchell. Permission was given and Mr. Halliday left the stand.

Mrs. Mitchell then took the stand and testified: I have resided in Brooklyn for the past twenty years; I am employed as nurse; have had considerable experience in attending women during confinement for the last fifteen years; attended Mrs. Tilton first in December, 1867, during her confinement, and remained with her to April, 1868. She had a sickness following her confinement and the child was brought up by my hands and not by the breast. I had known Mrs. Tilton originally since 1865. I think Tilton was absent from January of that period until the middle of March. In my attendance upon her I became intimate with her and knew her character. As a wife and mother she was very affectionate, and was generally speaking of promoting the happiness of her house. During this period there was no frequency of Beecher's calls at the house, nor did I observe any terms of intimacy between them when he did call. During Mrs. Tilton's confinement the sick room was up one flight of stairs and separated from another room by means of folding doors. I saw Kate Carey, employed there as nurse; I saw her there on my second attendance when Mrs. Tilton was sick. During my first two attendances on Mrs. Tilton I knew of Beecher's calls, though I never saw him in my first attendance that I remember. I knew of Beecher sending a basket of flowers, but I did not see him there. I attended Mrs. Tilton when she had a miscarriage, and she seemed to me to be suffering from a troubled mind; she also seemed very weak, and had suffered from the loss of blood; before I came I considered her to be in a weak and critical condition, which continued during my attendance of one week. I nursed her constantly during that period, and was with her all the time. Mr. Tilton came to see her nearly every day of the week; he was very much agitated; he said he was ruined, as he had been discharged from the *Union*; the children were all there at the time. Tilton brought papers into the sick room.

Then the witness was asked if she observed any effect of this conversation on Mrs. Tilton, to which Mr. Beach objected, and a brief argument ensued.

Judge Neilson finally allowed the question, and witness replied: She appeared to be excited, and I asked Mr. Tilton not to talk in the room. He then walked out of the room. During that week I saw Mr. Moulton at the house, in Tilton's company; they had a conversation together in the room adjoining the sick room, a portion of which was carried on in Mrs. Tilton's hearing. I think I objected to their thus talking together in the sick room. I think these talks were affecting Mrs. Tilton's health and condition.

Mr. Evarts then asked witness what effect was observed by her to be caused on Mrs. Tilton by these conversations, and it was objected to by counsel for plaintiff and ruled out on the ground that its form was leading.

The witness then continued: The study was on the same floor as the hall. I asked these gentlemen to leave the sick room and repair to the study for their conversation. I regarded these disturbances as unfavorable to Mrs. Tilton's health. During this week of my attendance I do not remember how often Tilton was in the house. I remember, on one occasion, Mr. Tilton coming up to his wife's room and reading to her. I was in the other room and the folding doors were closed. I recollect one night Mr. Beecher visited Mrs. Tilton; it was on a Friday night, the night of the prayer meeting, and outside a snow storm was raging. Mr. Tilton left the house before Mr. Beecher's visit, and returned after it. I was in bed, asleep, when he returned, and his loud talking to his wife awakened me, and I told him this was not right to do, and I spoke to him of my fear that his wife would take cold. I think this was about midnight. Tilton remained in his wife's sick room about an hour. While I was in the study I heard Mrs. Tilton's voice in tones of entreaty. He came into the study, got a paper and returned to his own room. When I returned I found Mrs. Tilton very nervous and agitated, and shortly after I went to bed. I heard Tilton, when he was in that room, pacing along the floor. On the occasion when Tilton said he was ruined, Bessie Turner was in the room and appear to be affected at the statement. She showed her feeling by sinking or falling down on the sofa in a partial faint; I think she was weeping after she received this information. During this week Mrs. Tilton continued to suffer from renewed loss of blood. I left on Monday morning, the 2d of January, and the second period of my service with Mrs. Tilton. At both times of Mr. Tilton's return to the house, during this week, Mrs. Tilton had suffered from loss of blood and was very faint and weak.

Cross-examined by Mr. Fullerton—I went there, on the first occasion, the 17th of December, 1867, and left the first of January. I returned, on the second visit, in the June following. Paul was born the 29th of December, 1867. In June, 1869, I was there on a visit for two weeks. The next time I was in the family, was the 26th of December, 1870, in the capacity of nurse. Mrs. Tilton had then been ill for a week before I came. I did not know myself that she was ill, but was informed of it. She was in bed, ill and weak. I slept with Mrs. Tilton every night when she was ill, without exception. I made no memorandum of the occasion when Tilton came to the house in the middle of the day. I could not tell how I remember that that was the time he said he had left the *Union* and was a ruined man. I have no recollection what day of the month that was, but it was before I left on the second of January; but I think it was on the week previous. I went there on Saturday, and it was in the following week. I am sure he said he had been discharged from the Brooklyn *Union*, and did not use the name of any other paper. I told him the doctors told me to keep Mrs. Tilton quiet. I think Tilton visited his wife's room at least once a day, but I cannot remember the second occasion on which I admonished him. It was on the 30th of December that Beecher visited her. I remember that visit, because it was prayer meeting night. I opened the door for Beecher, when I heard the door bell ring, and asked him in. No person accompanied him, nor did I see any person on the stairs. I walked into Mrs. Tilton's room with him and left him there, closing the door. I went down stairs. No person requested me to do so. Mrs. Tilton was in bed in a reclining position. I suppose I was down stairs about an hour before I returned. I heard him go out and then I went up stairs. I did not think anything about returning up stairs while he was there. It was my habit to leave and go down stairs when any person came in. I did not go down stairs or leave the room when Moulton called, nor was I requested to. When I heard the door close I knew Beecher had gone away. I did not notice, on my return to the room, that there were any writing materials in it. There was a secretary in the other room, containing writing materials, but you had to pass between the folding doors from Mrs. Tilton's room to reach them.

After recess, Mrs. Mitchell's cross-examination was continued by ex-Judge Fullerton. She testified: I cannot fix the time of night when Tilton returned after Beecher's call. When he came that night I had not gone to my own room, but was in Mrs. Tilton's room. I told Mrs. Tilton Mr. Beecher wished to see her when he called, and I do not remember that she made any reply. I have no way of fixing the time of Tilton's return that night. I was awaked by his whispering to his wife, and told him his wife needed rest. About half an hour after, I left the room occupied by Mrs. Tilton and went into the study. Tilton came in there after about half an hour. I do not think any person suggested my return to Mrs. Tilton's room. I heard the sound of conversation going on in Mrs. Tilton's room, but could not distinguish the words used. I heard Mrs. Tilton's voice as though used in entreaty. She was speaking in a loud tone. I thought it was angry because it was loud. I determined the character of her voice from its sound and loudness. Mrs. Tilton was feeble in strength when I went there, but improved while I was there a little. She improved by Saturday after I got there, but was not able to sit up in a chair in the room; if she did I do not remember it. I went away on Monday, the 2d of January, and left her in her bed and I have made friendly calls since I was there at service. Tilton invariably treated Mrs. Tilton well in my presence, so far as I observed. The night Beecher called, Mrs. Tilton was very weak and low, and had been more or less so during that day. I do not remember any other person calling there that week. When I went down stairs and left them I did not think of telling Mr. Beecher what the doctor said about keeping Mrs. Tilton quiet. I do not remember what conversation she was in after Mr. Beecher had gone away, and I went up to her room. I suppose I must have had some anxiety during my absence of about an hour from the room, but I cannot recall what her condition was when I returned. I did not observe if she was crying.

Re-direct examination—I remember sometimes, during her confinement, that two persons visited Mrs. Tilton in her sick room. I remember Miss Alice Cary was one of them. Mrs. Bradshaw was another; also an aunt, Mrs. Tilton's name I cannot remember. I don't recollect that any gentlemen called on her while in her sick room. I did not see any person in her sick room, except Mr. Tilton, Mr. Beecher and Mr. Moulton.

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After recess, Mrs. Mitchell's cross-examination was continued by ex-Judge Fullerton. She testified: I cannot fix the time of night when Tilton returned after Beecher's call. When he came that night I had not gone to my own room, but was in Mrs. Tilton's room. I told Mrs. Tilton Mr. Beecher wished to see her when he called, and I do not remember that she made any reply. I have no way of fixing the time of Tilton's return that night. I was awaked by his whispering to his wife, and told him his wife needed rest. About half an hour after, I left the room occupied by Mrs. Tilton and went into the study. Tilton came in there after about half an hour. I do not think any person suggested my return to Mrs. Tilton's room. I heard the sound of conversation going on in Mrs. Tilton's room, but could not distinguish the words used. I heard Mrs. Tilton's voice as though used in entreaty. She was speaking in a loud tone. I thought it was angry because it was loud. I determined the character of her voice from its sound and loudness. Mrs. Tilton was feeble in strength when I went there, but improved while I was there a little. She improved by Saturday after I got there, but was not able to sit up in a chair in the room; if she did I do not remember it. I went away on Monday, the 2d of January, and left her in her bed and I have made friendly calls since I was there at service. Tilton invariably treated Mrs. Tilton well in my presence, so far as I observed. The night Beecher called, Mrs. Tilton was very weak and low, and had been more or less so during that day. I do not remember any other person calling there that week. When I went down stairs and left them I did not think of telling Mr. Beecher what the doctor said about keeping Mrs. Tilton quiet. I do not remember what conversation she was in after Mr. Beecher had gone away, and I went up to her room. I suppose I must have had some anxiety during my absence of about an hour from the room, but I cannot recall what her condition was when I returned. I did not observe if she was crying.

Re-direct examination—I remember sometimes, during her confinement, that two persons visited Mrs. Tilton in her sick room. I remember Miss Alice Cary was one of them. Mrs. Bradshaw was another; also an aunt, Mrs. Tilton's name I cannot remember. I don't recollect that any gentlemen called on her while in her sick room. I did not see any person in her sick room, except Mr. Tilton, Mr. Beecher and Mr. Moulton.

Re-cross-examination—On my return to the room, after Beecher's visit, I now recollect that she was weak. Tilton would not specify any charges, although I repeatedly asked him to do so; Tilton said that Moulton had documents relating to the charges insinuated against Beecher; Tilton spoke of the Woodhull publication as a fabrication; he said he wrote her life for the purpose of keeping her still, and stated that he was campaigning in New Hampshire when this publication appeared, and was utterly astounded when he heard of it being published; Tilton said that if Beecher would go to church and tell hearers of the offense, it was so slight that they would overlook it; he spoke of Beecher's offense as being quite venial in its character.

Mr. Evarts asked for a suspension of the examination of this witness, to call Mrs. Lucy W. Mitchell. Permission was given and Mr. Halliday left the stand.

Mrs. Mitchell then took the stand and testified: I have resided in Brooklyn for the past twenty years; I am employed as nurse; have had considerable experience in attending women during confinement for the last fifteen years; attended Mrs. Tilton first in December, 1867, during her confinement, and remained with her to April, 1868. She had a sickness following her confinement and the child was brought up by my hands and not by the breast. I had known Mrs. Tilton originally since 1865. I think Tilton was absent from January of that period until the middle of March. In my attendance upon her I became intimate with her and knew her character. As a wife and mother she was very affectionate, and was generally speaking of promoting the happiness of her house. During this period there was no frequency of Beecher's calls at the house, nor did I observe any terms of intimacy between them when he did call. During Mrs. Tilton's confinement the sick room was up one flight of stairs and separated from another room by means of folding doors. I saw Kate Carey, employed there as nurse; I saw her there on my second attendance when Mrs. Tilton was sick. During my first two attendances on Mrs. Tilton I knew of Beecher's calls, though I never saw him in my first attendance that I remember. I knew of Beecher sending a basket of flowers, but I did not see him there. I attended Mrs. Tilton when she had a miscarriage, and she seemed to me to be suffering from a troubled mind; she also seemed very weak, and had suffered from the loss of blood; before I came I considered her to be in a weak and critical condition, which continued during my attendance of one week. I nursed her constantly during that period, and was with her all the time. Mr. Tilton came to see her nearly every day of the week; he was very much agitated; he said he was ruined, as he had been discharged from the *Union*; the children were all there at the time. Tilton brought papers into the sick room.

Then the witness was asked if she observed any effect of this conversation on Mrs. Tilton, to which Mr. Beach objected, and a brief argument ensued.

Judge Neilson finally allowed the question, and witness replied: She appeared to be excited, and I asked Mr. Tilton not to talk in the room. He then walked out of the room. During that week I saw Mr. Moulton at the house, in Tilton's company; they had a conversation together in the room adjoining the sick room, a portion of which was carried on in Mrs. Tilton's hearing. I think I objected to their thus talking together in the sick room. I think these talks were affecting Mrs. Tilton's health and condition.

Mr. Evarts then asked witness what effect was observed by her to be caused on Mrs. Tilton by these conversations, and it was objected to by counsel for plaintiff and ruled out on the ground that its form was leading.

The witness then continued: The study was on the same floor as the hall. I asked these gentlemen to leave the sick room and repair to the study for their conversation. I regarded these disturbances as unfavorable to Mrs. Tilton's health. During this week of my attendance I do not remember how often Tilton was in the house. I remember, on one occasion, Mr. Tilton coming up to his wife's room and reading to her. I was in the other room and the folding doors were closed. I recollect one night Mr. Beecher visited Mrs. Tilton; it was on a Friday night, the night of the prayer meeting, and outside a snow storm was raging. Mr. Tilton left the house before Mr. Beecher's visit, and returned after it. I was in bed, asleep, when he returned, and his loud talking to his wife awakened me, and I told him this was not right to do, and I spoke to him of my fear that his wife would take cold. I think this was about midnight. Tilton remained in his wife's sick room about an hour. While I was in the study I heard Mrs. Tilton's voice in tones of entreaty. He came into the study, got a paper and returned to his own room. When I returned I found Mrs. Tilton very nervous and agitated, and shortly after I went to bed. I heard Tilton, when he was in that room, pacing along the floor. On the occasion when Tilton said he was ruined, Bessie Turner was in the room and appear to be affected at the statement. She showed her feeling by sinking or falling down on the sofa in a partial faint; I think she was weeping after she received this information. During this week Mrs. Tilton continued to suffer from renewed loss of blood. I left on Monday morning, the 2d of January, and the second period of my service with Mrs. Tilton. At both times of Mr. Tilton's return to the house, during this week, Mrs. Tilton had suffered from loss of blood and was very faint and weak.

Cross-examined by Mr. Fullerton—I went there, on the first occasion, the 17th of December, 1867, and left the first of January. I returned, on the second visit, in the June following. Paul was born the 29th of December, 1867. In June, 1869, I was there on a visit for two weeks. The next time I was in the family, was the 26th of December, 1870, in the capacity of nurse. Mrs. Tilton had then been ill for a week before I came. I did not know myself that she was ill, but was informed of it. She was in bed, ill and weak. I slept with Mrs. Tilton every night when she was ill, without exception. I made no memorandum of the occasion when Tilton came to the house in the middle of the day. I could not tell how I remember that that was the time he said he had left the *Union* and was a ruined man. I have no recollection what day of the month that was, but it was before I left on the second of January; but I think it was on the week previous. I went there on

SECOND EDITION.

WASHINGTON.

SOME REMOVALS TALKED OF.

Comptroller Tayler and Commissioner Douglas in Danger.

Discussion of the Hawaiian Treaty.—A Vote to be Taken this Evening.

MISSION OF MR. BOKER TO ST. PETERSBURG.

Revival of the Board to Abolish and Consolidate Arsenals.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

WASHINGTON, D. C., March 17, 1875.

Rumored Removal of Comptroller Tayler.

There is some doubt of the removal of First Comptroller Tayler, though stated with considerable emphasis. Mr. Tayler is generally recognized as a faithful officer and fully worthy of the responsible office he now holds. Upon the subject of his removal, a high official to-day remarked, in a paradoxical way, that the rumor afloat was too fast. It is known that a strong undercurrent of opposition to Mr. Tayler comes from parties interested in District finances, in the adjustment and final settlement of the accounts of the late District government. It is stated that Mr. Joseph H. Robinson, a friend of General Butler, will succeed Comptroller Tayler, in the event of his removal.

Commissioner Douglass and Others.

Among the names mentioned to-day for removal, is that of Mr. Douglass, Commissioner of Internal Revenue. It is learned from good authority that he is in danger. There are other bureau officers, however, who are not so sure of their tenure of office. It is understood that no action will be taken in the matter until after the adjournment of the Senate.

George P. Boker, of Pennsylvania, who was transferred from the court of Constantinople to that of St. Petersburg, as diplomatic representative of the United States, has not yet arrived at his post. There is reason to believe that Mr. Boker will not remain long at his field of duty, even should he reach there and go through the usual formalities of presentation and official recognition. He has for some time been entertaining a return to the United States.

The Hawaiian Treaty.

The Senate was engaged, in executive session, to-day for several hours in the discussion, of the Hawaiian Reciprocity Treaty. Speeches in favor of the ratification of the treaty were made by Messrs. Hamlin, Mitchell and Kelly, and opposing by Mr. Merrill, of Vermont. Mr. Hamlin's remarks were brief and were principally of the same nature as his prepared argument in favor of the treaty, delivered at the time it was reported from the Committee on Foreign Relations. Mr. Mitchell read a long argument, dwelling upon the importance of the treaty to the Pacific coast and the great necessity for a half-way coaling station between California, China and Japan. Mr. Kelly urged ratification, but cannot recall any other feature of her condition.

Mr. Evarts called John L. Gay, and he testified: I reside in Bloomington, Ind., and have been a resident of that State for six or seven years. I also resided in North Carolina and also in this county. I have been a clergyman for thirty years of the Protestant Episcopal Church. In 1872 I was connected with the Indiana State University, at Bloomington, which was and is open to both sexes for study. This has been so for eight years. Mr. Tilton lectured there on the 19th of February, 1872. The subject of his lecture was "Marriage and Divorce," and its title was "Home, Sweet Home." During the lecture he gave an account of the marriage relation, as he defined it. He told them to follow nature in the formation of marital relations—not the laws of nature. He made very ill terms about the church and State; he said to the audience that he would not permit the State to interfere or regulate the formation of this contract between the sexes: if he could have his way he would crush the State and the church too. He said: "If any two of you love each other, and promise to be faithful to each other, that vow makes you one without the intervention of a priest." He said that as they came together, without form, on their mere desire, without church or State, they could separate in the same way. He said there might be a difficulty about providing for children born in that way, that the State ought to take care of them. There were forty-two or forty-four female students there at that time. These young women were of all ages, ranging from fifteen to twenty-one or twenty-two. I have been here two weeks to-day, and came here on business with the church.

Cross-examined—I was written to by Mr. Shearman, about two months ago, with reference to this case. I received two letters and replied to them. Mr. Shearman said he thought my presence here would not be necessary. I gave him some facts about what I have told here, but I did not give him all I recollected, because I had filled the sheet and thought I had given enough. Not a dollar of my expenses has been paid me. Mr. Shearman sent a telegram to my home telling me to come on, and it was mingled in me by New York. Mr. Evarts gave me notice to come here today. After this lecture of Tilton's I addressed the meeting and he made a reply. The President of the University presided at that lecture. He lectured before a similar audience the next day, in the College Chapel, on the same subject. I heard he was requested to repeat it by the officers and faculty. I heard that the students passed resolutions of thanks to Tilton for his lecture. I did not attend the second lecture, because I was disgusted with the first. I was a member of the faculty then, and continued there six or seven months, when I resigned in consequence of the persecution I received for the action I took that night of Tilton's lecture. I was requested to resign.

Re-direct examination.—After Tilton's lecture I said to the audience that I had never heard a more dangerous lecture, both to the place and audience. Tilton replied, running his hands through his hair, that he did not wish to measure swords with the gentleman on the subject. He said he had been asked to deliver a lecture on the subject by both professors and students. This stirred up an opposition and feeling against him, which kept on increasing, and six weeks after I was constrained to resign my situation, and did so, telling that I preferred my calling as a minister. I was in New York two weeks when I received the telegram from home, the day before yesterday. Before that I had no communication from any gentleman connected with the cause. I went and consulted a friend as to my course in the premises. I had no desire to be called on to testify in this case.

Adjourned.

THE ASSEMBLY KILLS MRS. TILTON'S BILL.

The Judiciary Committee of the Assembly reported adversely to-day on the act in relation to wives testifying against their husbands in criminal

The Commercial.

THURSDAY, MARCH 18, 1875.

"The immortal gods," says an ancient writer, "are powerless against stupidity." We begin to despair of making any impression on the *Post*.

The Legislature of this State adjourns to-day. The Democratic branch of it has managed, during the session, to cover itself with failure as with a garment.

The managers of the Democratic party are using every exertion to start a national political paper at Washington. They are trying to raise a capital of half a million dollars, and design to begin wasting it by the next session.

The Virginia Legislature, which is on the point of adjournment, has as yet done nothing whatever toward fixing the status of the State debt, and redeeming the impaired credit and smirched honor of the Commonwealth.

Senator Bayard, of Delaware, has been selected for use as the Democratic decoy duck in Connecticut, during the remainder of the campaign. We have little fear, however, that the sharp-eyed voters of that State will fail to detect and to resent the imposition.

The amount due depositors in the one hundred and fifty-eight savings banks of New York State is $304,000,000, the increase last year being $18,400,000. This aggregate of deposits is greater than that of all the national and State banks put together. The reason is, that the savings banks pay interest and are deemed to be more secure.

It is to be feared that His Holiness, the Pope, has not an infallible memory. He appears, in his late allocution, to have wholly forgotten the interpreting fact that the German prelates whom he claims are persecuted, were imprisoned because of grave offenses against the State, and that in one diocese the military had to be called out to make these ministers of peace keep the peace.

The new plan decided upon by Tammany for distributing public patronage is, to award offices to the several Assembly districts in proportion to the number of Democratic votes cast therein at the last election—so many votes, so many dollars' worth of salary or wages. This arrangement is certainly to be commended for its frankness and simplicity, but will not Tweed's Five Points' constituents be likely, under its operation, to carry off the greatest portion of the spoils?

We learn from the Leavenworth *Times* that several thousand Indians now held as prisoners of war will be brought to that place within the next sixty days. It will take about two regiments of troops to guard them. It is proposed to place them on the "bottom" of the Missouri, opposite the Fort. The location of this large number of wild savages within three miles of that city will be quite a new sensation. We do not, however, see any reason why the new policy should not prove measurably successful.

Concerning the elevation of Archbishop McCloskey to a Cardinalate, a correspondent writes:

"The papers state that the Archbishop of Baltimore is to invest him with the *berretta*. What is that?"

The *berretta* is a Cardinal's red cap, and implies a notification of appointment. It may be conferred by proxy, but the red hat, or perfect symbol of a Cardinal's rank as a prince of the Church, has never yet been delivered to a Cardinal except by the Pope in person. This will be conferred when Cardinal McCloskey shall visit Rome.

The protracted strike at Fall River, Massachusetts, seems to be on the point of ending. The mill owners offer a compromise which leaves the rate of wages between the first and second reductions, and it is intimated that the old rate of 1874 will be restored on the first of April. These mills, which have lain idle for so long a period, pay, when running, ninety thousand dollars a month to their operatives. The latter are in a position to take the first step, and they ought not to permit false pride to keep them from following the dictates of their better judgment.

Still another of the numerous expedients by which Western municipalities attempt to avoid payment of their railroad aid and other bonds, has been swept aside by the United States Courts. The latest decision is that of Judge Blodgett, of the Northern District of Illinois, on the plea of Kankakee county that the bonds issued in aid of the Kankakee and Illinois River Railroad are invalid because before delivery that corporation had consolidated with another, without the written consent of all its Illinois stockholders. The court held that "the county could not set up this defense in its own behalf in the manner it had attempted to do, for it had lain by and allowed the consolidated company to put the bonds in circulation." These would-be repudiators are actually in danger of becoming honest in spite of themselves.

The next annual reunion of the Grand Army of the Republic will be held in Chicago on the 12th and 13th of May. The Cavalry Troop of the United States, of which General Sheridan is President, will hold its annual meeting at the same time, and beside this a general invitation has been extended to all the soldiers throughout the Northwest, who, owing to the fact that the celebrations hitherto have been confined to the Eastern cities, will attend in large numbers. Among the many distinguished people who are expected to be present are General Sherman, President Grant and Cabinet, Vice President Wilson, and most of the Governors of the Northern States, and the leading Union generals of the war. The celebration bids fair to bring together the largest gathering of veterans that has ever assembled since the close of the war.

Speaking of the New Hampshire election a leading New England Democratic organ thus blurts out: "If the campaign had been conducted upon the issues which involve free government, the result would have been different;" but the Democratic managers permitted "personal character and matters that do not concern the people to take a leading part." Exactly. What possible "concern" can the faithful have in the "personal character" of the candidates of their party? "Their's not to reason why; their's not to make reply;" their's but to vote the whole ticket, though the "personal character" of the nominees may be more unclean than ditch-water. You must on no account tell the truth about a disreputable Democratic aspirant for office, but as some compensation for this prohibition, you may vilify Republicans to your heart's content. Such is Democratic doctrine and practice.

A Maritime Exchange has lately been organized in Philadelphia, composed of merchants engaged in the shipping business, the objects of which do not seem to be covered by any other commercial organization in the city. The new exchange is intended to take care of the mercantile shipping interests of the port, to regulate the loading of vessels, look after maritime insurance rating, etc., and to provide more efficient means than at present exist for marine reporting, in order that merchants may obtain the earliest intelligence of the arrivals and departures of their vessel. Such an exchange has been organized at New York, of the same class of merchants and for the same purpose, the old system of marine reporting having proved inefficient there. Such a body evidently may become of great value to the external commerce of a port, in stimulating and fostering shipping enterprise, which is always found to abound most where a powerful class is constantly in active association.

The Lafayette county, Missouri, bond repudiators have received unsatisfactory replies from the holders of their obligations who are so unreasonable as to want their money, and a county convention professing to be taxpayers, having heard these replies, and having received assurances from the compliant judges of the county court that they were ready to carry out the wishes of the people, if not in conflict with their oath of office, has passed resolutions declaring its determination to "resist by every means in its power all attempts by bondholders to ruin the county by writs of mandamus," requesting the county court "to resign whenever the emergency arises making it necessary that they should do so, as an alternative to prevent the levying of a tax for payment of bonds," and appointing an executive committee "to act on any emergency that may arise, such as the resignation of the county court." This trick will not serve, however. A recent decision of a United States court—noticed in the Commercial at the time—holds that officials who resign under such circumstances are still subject to process until their successors are duly qualified.

GENERAL BUSINESS OUTLOOK.

All the leading journals of the various branches of trade notice and comment on the palpable signs of commercial revival. Even that eminently conservative journal, the *Nation*, is confident that the depressing effects of the panic are at last substantially over, and that with the growth of the spring, there is to be a general revival in business. The Chicago *Tribune* has been interviewing the different business firms in that city, and reports a very flattering prospect in all branches of trade, and it says its report can be relied upon as authoritative, it being obtained in person. The Troy *Times* gives an account of the status of the various manufacturing and commercial interests there, which shows a decidedly improved prospect for the opening season in both branches of industry. The Boston *Globe* says the indications on all sides are that the general trade of that city is much better than it was a year ago this time, and that no doubt with the disappearance of the snow and the advent of mild, settled weather, merchants will experience a fair spring trade. The general merchandise markets, from week to week, show a decided tendency for the better. It is predicted that the first of April, which is so largely a settlement day throughout New England, will usher in a period of great activity in that section. In several of the towns of Massachusetts factories are reported as running on extra time. In the West the farmers are in a much better condition than was generally supposed, while the reports of many of the railroads of that section show increased earnings. In New York the spring trade is reported to be progressing favorably now in all directions, only requiring a few days' steady weather to set all the wheels in motion. The various forwarding lines coastwise have as much freight as they can conveniently handle. With the Eastern States the free movement of merchandise is particularly noticeable. Large quantities of manufactured goods are also arriving, both by steamer and rail. The Savannah, Charleston and New Orleans steamers also report increasing business, and the produce markets also foreshadow the return of more active times.

Then, too, the late advance in wheat in England and on the Continent has started an upward movement in prices here, which will cause an active movement in grain from the farmers' hands to the lake ports and the seaboard as soon as roads in the country permit of stuff being hauled to the railroads. The farmers still hold a large portion of last year's wheat crop, refusing to sell freely at the low prices of last fall and winter. The indications are favorable for a good export demand for wheat in the future, which, coupled with the recent advance in price, certainly strengthens the theory that our surplus crops will be marketed during the spring and summer, which cannot be done without giving a sharp impetus to general business and active employment to the railroads. The recent call of the Secretary of the Treasury for $30,000,000 3-20 bonds on account of the sinking fund, has also had a good effect in financial and business circles, and assisted the revival of confidence which had previously set in. The neglect of the national sinking fund and the default of interest by our railroads in 1873 and 1874 greatly damaged our credit in Europe, but the action of the Secretary in holding the sinking fund sacred will do much to restore this credit abroad to its former high standard, and so increase the confidence of European capitalists in our securities as, it is to be hoped, to revive their export once more. To be sure, hope is not a marketable commodity, but it is an exceedingly important auxiliary agency of prosperity, nevertheless. There is enough of everything now, except confidence. Everybody should now lend a hand to encourage the growth of this tender plant.

Notwithstanding the distrust of our securities in Europe during the last year, we appear to be still borrowing there by the sale of corporate securities at the rate of about $90,000,000 per annum. £2,257,500 is to be paid in subscriptions to half a dozen American loans in England, during the present month. The aggregate amount called up for payment during the first quarter of the year is £4,753,750, or stated in dollars, $23,100,000. The British House of Commons has lately appointed a special committee, which proposes to protect British capitalists from being gulled by "swindling foreign loans," which apparently presupposes that a large proportion of English moneyed men have not sufficient information or intelligence to protect themselves.

Fear of a Skeleton.

To the Editor of the Pittsburgh Commercial:

The apprehensions still entertained by many good people about the practical operation of that fleshless Civil Rights bill, passed at the late session of Congress, will, I think, prove as groundless as the reasons for stripping it of nerve and muscle are illogical. It is argued that Southern people will not submit to colored folks having equal traveling accommodations, for an equal amount of fare, and equal hotel comforts at a common price. Ex-slaveholders will not ride in the same car, or steamboat cabin, with their ex-slaves. If it were an untried experiment there might be doubt, but Charles Sumner solved the problem during his life.

When I removed to Washington, early in '63, the streets of that city, according to the prognostications of the very class of folks who are now croaking, should have been blood up to the horses' bridles; for the slaves there had recently been emancipated, in which event they were to have risen, at once, without delay or stay of execution, and butchered all the white folks, without distinction of age, sex or previous condition. All the old, friendly relations were to have been broken up and the world was to stand on its head for an indefinite length of time; but, instead of anarchy and confusion worse confounded, things were moving along in the old groove. Ex-masters were just as pompous and patronizing, ex-mistresses just as contemptuously condescending and ex-slaves just as supplejointed and seemingly submissive as before the great change. A casual observer would not have noticed the undercurrent of litheness and joy which alone proclaimed the new birth. Externally the semblance of the old relationship was scrupulously maintained, and a man known to have colored blood in his veins, no matter how white his skin or straight his hair, was not permitted to enter a street car, except as the personal attendant of some one of the master class.

The ugliest and blackest man in the city could walk in and take a seat, if he walked after a white man or woman, and carried a satchel or package; but the President's private messenger who looked so much like S. P. Chase, afterwards Chief Justice, as often to be mistaken for him, must stand on the platform because his mother was a quadroon. A colored woman, no matter how black, could sit in a car, with the aristocracy, if she held a white baby; but ladies of wealth and culture must stand out on the platform, because their skin was tinted olive or cream, and their hair waved without crimping pins.

I once rode from the Capitol of this free and equal Government, down Pennsylvania avenue, in a street car, through a severe snow storm, with a big Irish woman in a beastly state of intoxication, disgustingly filthy, and exposing her person to the waist in trying to feed a squalid, squalling infant. She was comfortably seated, as she should have been, and the gentlemen and ladies present only seemed sorry for her sad plight; but, outside in the snow, stood a light mulatto woman, decently and cleanly, but thinly clad, holding an infant in one arm and scarcely shielding herself by the iron railing, which she grasped with a hand covered by a torn cotton glove.

No one seemed to see anything amiss, and when I suggested to the conductor that this outsider should take one of the vacant seats, he answered, curtly, "'gainst the rules!" No one seconded my effort, and when I left the car those two representative women occupied their respective places, in full view of that wonderful dome on which a negro, afterwards, placed that nondescript bronze woman with the turkey on her head.

Soon after this, Charles Sumner got up a Civil Rights bill for the District, forbidding such discriminations. It became a law, and oh, but the indignation was loud and deep! Moderate Republicans thought the move injudicious, calculated to irritate white folks, and to alienate them from the Union cause. It was an extreme measure and so diametrically opposed to public sentiment that it could not be enforced. It would break up the present railway system, for white folks, the Washington city white folks, never would, could or should ride in street cars with negroes. No, never! Especially would not the ladies submit to such degradation. Ladies, of course, control social customs. In these they are supreme, and in their supremacy they had enacted that no lady or gentleman could ride with a negro, unless said negro was present for the convenience of some other person than him or herself. The Yankee who had dared to infringe on this divine right, of social superiority, was a wretch, a monster, and a miserable old bachelor, who had been deaf and blind to the facinations of the fairest.

Sumner had so long been the object of fear and hate to the slaveholding partisans of Washington, and they had hated him so heartily and bitterly, that it seemed impossible to have added anything to their malignity; but this law intensified it to more than fever heat. Prominent and combined efforts were made to prevent the execution of the law, and to pervert it, when negroes came into cars ladies and gentlemen rushed out, or refused to enter when they saw them there. They remonstrated and swore, and one day two ladies were in such a hurry to get off a car because a negro woman had come into it, that they could not wait for it to stop, but stepped down and fell sprawling, flounces, feathers and furbelows, flat in the soft mud, on Pennsylvania avenue, in that most public place, near the Seventh street crossing; but the negress rode, without bundles or babies, the white folks got used to it and lived in peace ever after.

As a matter of fact social customs are founded on constitutional and statute law, in nineteen cases out of twenty, if not in all cases, and to assume that the custom should change before the law, is to wait for an effect without a cause. It was the slave code of this country which fixed the social status of the negro, and legal equality is the only road by which he can reach social standing. He was treated like an animal, denied the accommodations provided for men, because the law had, previously, adjudged him to equality with animals, and the only logical remedy for his disabilities is law. As we have had line upon line and statute upon statute, fixing and defining his position as chattles personal, so we may require law upon law and statute upon statute fixing and defining his position as a citizen. He never can gain or maintain the rights of manhood without stringent laws, rigidly enforced, and the nation will yet be obliged to put flesh on this skeleton bug a boo, by securing to every child the right of education, without distinction on account of origin or the shape of his nose.

Jane Grey Swisshelm.

GENERAL AND PARTICULAR.

The eloquentiality of the Legislature is nigh over.

When Bill King materialized he ran wholly into cheek.

Pinchback goes back without a Senatorial handle to his name.

To-day the Pennsylvania House will adjourn, and all nature is glad.

All the rivers in the country are organizing runs upon their banks.

Moody and Sankey are drawing vaster crowds than ever in London.

One of that Baltimore quartet has quit. All its songs are now celestial.

Careful people should can some of this cool spring weather for summer use.

Pleasant is the wine of spring, but there is a good deal of bitterness in these dregs.

And now a Delaware cow has been and gone and brought forth four fine healthy calves.

St. Louis is rejoicing at the prospect of a cotton mill, with ample capital to make it profitable.

Governor Tilden has struck Bergh dumb by pardoning a man who was imprisoned for killing a cat.

No horses will be excluded from the tracks during the spring races on account of color or previous condition.

Old John Robinson, the circus man, is looming up as an independent candidate for the Mayoralty in Cincinnati.

A Minnesota paper tells a sounding story of a sixteen year old boy who has "made a violin out of his own head."

The *Golden Era*, McLeansboro, Illinois, is published "Up stairs in the jail building." says its prospectus. Who was she?

The Joliet Iron and Steel Company will blow in their blast furnaces in a few days. Their steel converters are in full operation.

A Chattanooga, Tennessee, telegraph operator accidentally got an electric shock that took every hair from his head, the other day.

The Congressional Library is in a fair way to become one of the largest in the world. It now contains 274,157 volumes and 53,000 pamphlets.

The loan of $50,000 offered by Nebraska for the benefit of the grasshopper sufferers, has all been taken in New York at a premium of 4 1-5 per cent.

Too much Gentile for them. The Mormon majority in the Utah Legislature will urge the removal of the capital to St. George at the next session.

For the past two or three months rich and valtuable discoveries have been made of lead in Kansas, and siver and lead in the northern counties of Arkansas.

A Nevada paper says that owing to the incursions of the chinch bug last year the two great staples of the State at present are red-haired girls and cord wood.

From thirty to fifty per cent. of all the cattle in Montana, Nevada, Idaho, Utah, Eastern Washington and Oregon will be lost from the severity of the winter.

There will be weeping among the parting and departing Solons of the Legislature to-day, and when the people next get a chance at the Democrats there will be a whalin'.

A wealthy Englishman has bought a large tract of land in Atchison county, Kansas, and, with a dairy of sixteen hundred cows, proposes to "cheese it" on an extensive scale.

Troy boasts that it makes more stoves, paper and linen collars, malleable iron, Bessemer steel rails, and horse shoes than any other city of the same dimensions in the country.

It has been very cold in Jerusalem, this winter. The Arabs, having never seen ice before, were completely puzzled and could not understand "why water should be changed into glass!"

The parade, the sprigs of shamrock, the crash of music, the flaunting of green banners, the nodding of plumes, and all the general accompaniments of St. Patrick's day are over, thank fortune.

Two weeks ago the capital of Beecher's paper, the *Christian Union*, was increased to $250,000, and two creditors of the concern, having notes, were compelled, quite reluctantly, to accept payment in shares.

The acme of splurge. A New York paper says that during Beecher's prayer at the Plymouth church services last Sunday, "all about him from the bowed heads there was the *faint low murmur of falling tears*."

Cincinnati is, with one exception, the most densely populated city in the United States. New York averages 14.72 persons to each dwelling house, Cincinnati 8.8, Boston 8.46, Jersey City 8.37, and Chicago 6.70.

The copper industry promises to be prosperous this year. The price is remunerative, and the stock on hand no greater than last year, when it was 10,000,000 pounds. All that is not needed at home can be exported to Europe.

For the past two years sixty or seventy American locomotives a year have been sent abroad at an annual valuation of nearly a million dollars. This exportation represents the degree to which American skill in iron-working is able to prevail over the skill of foreigners.

In one direction, at least, negro equality is recognized. A colored man visited the State National bank, in Raleigh, the other day, and insisted upon his right, under the Civil Rights law, to deposit $300 in that institution, "jus' de same as white folks." The cashier took it.

Religious Statistics.

Statistics of the leading religious denominations in the United States have just been published. These show the Roman Catholics to have a total claimed population of 5,761,242; the Baptists a membership of 1,761,171; the Protestant Episcopal Church a communicant membership of 272,554; the Congregationalists a membership of 330,391; the United Brethren number 131,859; and the Universalists 30,905. There has been an increase in membership in every denomination, the Baptists showing a gain during the year of 127,632.

The Roman Catholic Church in the United States has seven Archbishops, 47 Bishops, 4,873 priests, and a total of 6,320 churches, chapels and stations. In the Protestant Episcopal Church there are reported 3,040 clergy and 2,750 parishes, thirty-three of the clergy are stationed in Africa, Asia and Europe. The Baptists number 943 associations, 21,510 churches, and 13,354 ordained ministers. The Congregationalists have 3,403 churches, and 3,278 ministers. The United Brethren report 3,959 churches and 1,886 ministers. The Universalists have 624 churches and 674 ministers.

The mud-fish, a specimen of which has just been received at the Brighton aquarium, England, is a curious animal, abundant in Africa but not met with far from the equator. When the African rivers are dried, and their bottoms, under the influence of the torrid and desiccating air, are baked to a hard crust, with splits and cracks innumerable, the mud-fish, which are unable to retreat like the sea-fishes from the shoaling water with an ebb tide, is found at the depth of eighteen inches, incrusted in mud, where it remains for about three-quarters of the year and until the next rainy season. When the mud is again liquified the fish is set free—none the worse for its long improvement and deprivation of light and air.

The Maysville (Ky.) *Bulletin* states that on top of the hill below Logan's Gap, Ohio county, between that point and where the ridge terminates in Eagle Creek, is an interesting ancient excavation or causeway, extending across the brink of the hill, twenty-five feet in width and a foot or more in depth. In the bed of the causeway and about it, are immense numbers of human bones, many of them large enough to lead to the belief that they are evidences of a race of giants.

PERSONAL

Here William French his body lies,
For Murder his blood for Vengence cries;
King George the Third his Tory crew
That with a bawl his head shot threw.
For Liberty and his Country's good
he lost his Life, his Dearest blood.

Another bogus "materializing" medium has been exposed—a Mrs. Parrey, who has been puzzling Chicagoans for some months past by her wonderful materializations. The spirits that were called up by her from the vasty deep proved to be nothing more harmful than a few rubber masks, hands and arms, which were easily concealed from curious investigators.

An honest old farmer from Clinton county, who had come down to the city to pass Sunday with his metropolitan friends, being asked by one of them this morning what the people up in Northern New York think of the Beecher scandal, replied that he never tried it, and didn't know anything about it—that he and all his neighbors burn kerosene.

Among the visitors of the Chicago Art Gallery the other day, was a smart little fellow of seven, who took great interest in the paintings, particularly Mount Shasta. He was so keen in his criticism of the mysterious mists that forms one of the most attractive features of the picture as to attract general attention, and then it came out that the young gentleman is himself a painter; and, after a little coaxing, some of his productions were brought forth. They were chiefly studies of birds, from nature, and sufficiently remarkable to merit a place in the portfolio of an amateur of more advanced age. It appears that the little artist sketches and colors from nature, and he certainly appears to have developed extraordinary powers for one so young.

Tennessee is singing the praises of David Holloway, a locomotive engineer, who met his death at his post of duty. The recent floods had borne away bridges on the Tennessee, Virginia and Georgia road, and with a passenger train Holloway had been cautiously feeling his way along the line. A working party had constructed a bridge over Sweetwater creek, and, under instructions, Holloway detached his engine to make a trial of the strength of the new structure. As he reached the approach he bade his fireman leave the engine, saying that the work was perilous, and the sacrifice of one life would be enough. The fireman stepped from the footboard, the engine moved upon the bridge. It was night. Presently there was heard a crash of timbers. The frail bridge had given away, and David Holloway was a dead man.

A young Bostonian met with a comical mishap recently. His watch breaking down just before he set out for the opera, of which he is a frequenter, he stepped into a jeweler's shop where he is well acquainted for the purpose of having his time piece repaired, and obtained a substitute for it in the shape of a handsome Swiss watch, loaned him by the courtesy of the proprietor of the establishment. Thus equipped, the young gentleman took his seat at the opera, and everything went well until the middle of the second act, when suddenly he heard strains of sweet music not in the score, wafted sweet and low in his neighborhood. People to right of him, people to left of him, people on all sides him queried and wondered. Finally, horrible to relate, the unfortunate man found that the music issued from his vest pocket, and as he hurriedly pulled out the watch, the strains of the Swiss waltz thrilled his soul. He stood not upon the order of his departure, but went at once.

The first blood of the Revolution was shed precisely one hundred years ago last Saturday. History commonly accounts the skirmish at Lexington, April 19, 1775, as the first occasion of conflict, but a prior claim is filed by Westminster, now of Windham county, Vermont, but a hundred years ago a part of New York. To the King's court house the law officers proceeded, under the escort of a body of British troops, to hold the customary session, but the exasperated patriots refused to allow them to occupy the court house, where they assembled in force. Shortly before midnight the English troops advanced, and the rebels not dispersing, fired upon them indiscriminately. William French being instantly killed. A stone was erected over his grave in the churchyard, bearing the following quaint inscription: "In memory of William French, who was shot at Westminster, March ye 13th, 1775, by the hand of the cruel ministerial locusts of George ye Third, at the Court House, at 11 o'clock at night, in the twenty-second year of his age.

STATE NEWS.

A rhinoceros lately received at the Zoological Garden in Philadelphia weighs nearly three tons.

Farmers are predicting injury to the grain crop from the fields having been covered too long with snow.

Some Philadelphians now propose to buy Masonic Hall, on Chestnut street, and reconstruct it into a hotel of five hundred rooms.

The Philadelphia *Evening Express* has been purchased by W. Channing Nevin, Esq., son of Rev. Alfred Nevin, formerly of Lancaster.

A family name Mark, of Gray township, Centre county, was poisoned one day last week by eating "wurst" from an earthen crock. The glazing of the vessel had become mixed with the "wurst".

James Martin, of Lancaster county, married not wisely, but too well. He took into bigamous wedlock six fair ones. James has gone to the penitentiary to work at shoemaking six months; his punishment came at last.

The body of Edward Coyle, aged fifty years, who suddenly disappeared some weeks ago, was found in an old air hole near Shenandoah a few days since. There were marks about the face as if some creature had been feeding on the corpse.

Judge Hall, of the Sixteenth Judicial district of Pennsylvania, intends to visit Europe during the summer vacation. Heavy labor has seriously affected his eyes, and he proposes to take the trip to avoid work and give his eyes time to recover.

They have an anti-profanity society in Lebanon, so 'tis said. The penalties are shockingly low. One dollar for plain oaths, two dollars for mixed, three dollars for twisted, four dollars for double and twisted, with a liberal discount for large orders and special occasions.

Information is earnestly desired of the whereabouts of Samuel and Catharine Simpson, who formerly lived in Pennsylvania. They were the parents of James and William, who ran off and went to Missouri many years ago. Any person sending any information of them or their estate to Thomas Simpson, Competition, Laclide county, Missouri, will receive $100.

Major John R. Breitenbach, a well known citizen of Norristown, died on Saturday last. He had been a member of the bar of Montgomery county for thirty-two years. At the breaking out of the war of the rebellion he entered the service as a captain, and was afterwards promoted to be a major, acting for a part of the time as commander of his regiment. After the war was over he was appointed Collector of Internal Revenue, but at the end of his term returned to the law, and was in active practice down to within a few months of his death.

OHIO NEWS.

The Cincinnati, Sandusky and Cleveland Railroad track is to be relaid with steel rails.

The cupola of the Universalist church at McConnelsville, was demolished by lightning yesterday morning.

The new town of Stewart, on the Marietta and Cincinnati railroad, is the expected terminus of the Federal Creek Valley Railroad.

Over seventy persons have joined the Presbyterian church at Fredericksburgh, Knox county, as the result of a recent revival.

Josephine Rannels, colored, was arrested yesterday for the murder at Nelsonville last week of an infant, which was found in the canal.

Bishop Bedell, of Ohio, in a late letter reaffirms the position of the Episcopal Church on the subject of theater-going and dancing. He characterizes them as demoralizing vices.

The First Presbyteran church in Chillicothe, reports a revival, in which the families of the congregation are sharing largely, and, as a result, more than thirty have been added to their communion.

On last Sunday sixty-two persons joined the William street Methodist church in Delaware. There is a very remarkable awakening among the students of Ohio Wesleyan University located in that place.

Rev. Isaac C. Hughes, pastor of the Welsh Congregational church, on Town street, Columbus, asked his people to take action as to whether he should remain shepherd of the flock. The result was a request that he should resign forthwith.

A Strange Malady in the Nose.

Pierre Denisart, forty-seven years of age, was taken to the hospital in Paris the other day suffering from a strange malady. About two weeks previous he was attacked by sudden pains in his nose, and three days later he noticed, to his horror, that his nose was growing longer. The pain continues, and the nose is still growing. It has already grown more than an inch. The saddest part of the story is that Denisart has a very handsome head, and has heretofore made his living as a model. He will now be obliged to support himself by exhibiting his nose. If Denisart's nose continues growing at the same rate, that is, about an inch in ten days, it will touch the ground in about twenty months.

Hydrophobia has broken out among the cats in Mayfield, Kentucky, and two children have died from the effects of assaults by these feline pets. It appears to be a question of the extermination of the children or the cats.

The Multiplication of Diseases.

Diseases multiply. One begets another. A trifling indisposition may, therefore, originate a complication of dangerous maladies. Indigestion begets far more formidable diseases; a multitude of ailments are traceable to constipation: fever and ague unhinges the entire nervous system, and is therefore the source of the protean ailments which affect that portion of the human organism. Hostetter's Stomach Bitters, however, whether resorted to at the inception of those disorders of the stomach, bowels or liver, which give birth to the majority of diseases and disabilities, or taken when they have ripened into formidable maturity, are alike powerful to cure. The process of recovery is, of course, longer when the malady has gained headway, but it is none the less certain. Dyspepsia, constipation, biliousness, kidney complaints and intermittent fever, invariably yield to the operation of the great alterative and invigorant.

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Open daily from 9 to 4 o'clock, and on SATURDAY EVENINGS, from May 1st to November 1st, 7 to 9 o'clock, and from November 1st to May 1st, 6 to 8 o'clock. Interest paid at the rate of Six Per Cent., computed from the 1st and 15th of each month, and if not withdrawn compounds semi-annually, in January and July. Book of By-Laws, &c., furnished at the office.
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THE PLACE TO BUY
Ladies', Misses' and Children's
Trimmed or Untrimmed Hats,
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OR ANY OTHER
MILLINERY GOODS,
IS AT
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$1,200,000 IN PRIZES!
The Grandest Single Number Scheme on Record, will be drawn in public in St. Louis, on March 31st, 1875.
Capital Prize, $100,000!
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1 Prize of	$100,000
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5 Prizes of	10,000
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And 11,451 other Prizes of from	$1,500 to $50.

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Whole Tickets $20; Halves $10; Quarters $5
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FOR FURNISHING CEMENT.
SEALED PROPOSALS will be received in the office of the County Engineer, until MARCH 22d, for furnishing HYDRAULIC CEMENT, of American production, for the Masonry of County Bridges and other Structures, for one year from date of contract, to be delivered at the Warehouse of Contractor. Proposals to be accompanied by labeled samples, not less than two pounds in quantity.
By order of Commissioners.
J. R. STILLEY,
County Engineer.
March 12, 1875.

WANTED.
THE UNITED STATES LIFE
INS. CO. OF NEW YORK
Is desirous of securing several solicitors for Life Insurance. To men who are active, energetic, and willing to solicit, a liberal arrangement will be made. Those who have represented other companies will be required to show a good personal record of business actually settled. Preference will be given to young men who have never been engaged in the business of Life Insurance, and who are desirous of commencing a new business at the bottom and working up. No person desiring to act as manager of agencies and have others do the work and they receive the pay, need apply, the Company feeling they can at present manage their own business; but to real, live, energetic workers a part salary and part commission will be paid. Negotiations may be had at any time with
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To call without delay and avail themselves of the Bargains they are offering.

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Our Manufacturing Department, already running some fifty sewing machines, is turning out all the Latest Novelties in Paris and New York Styles, made up in the very best manner.
New Ladies' Jackets, Sacques, &c.
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Their New Stock of THREE-PLIES, TWO-PLIES, WOOLEN INGRAINS, RAG and HEMP CARPETS, and DRUGGETS; also, OIL CLOTHS, SHADES, MATTINGS, MATS, &c., is not surpassed in variety of Quality and Pattern, or in Lowness of Price.
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J. W. COOK.....President.

R. W. MACKEY.....Vice President.

W. MCCANDLESS.....Cashier.

CENTRAL BANK,

No. 47 BANK BLOCK, Pittsburgh.

CAPITAL.....$100,000.

Bank of Discount and Deposit.

Stockholders Individually Liable.

INTEREST ALLOWED ON TIME DEPOSITS

Collections made on all the principal cities of the United States and Canadas.

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BANKERS AND BROKERS,

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Particular attention paid to the Purchase and Sale of GOVERNMENT BONDS.

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Dealers in Pittsburgh Bonds and all other investment Securities.

Loans negotiated on marketable collaterals at current rates.

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STEAMSHIPS.

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Only Line Carrying the American Flag

Sailing Every Thursday from PHILADELPHIA

For Queenstown and Liverpool.

CABIN, INTERMEDIATE AND STEERAGE

Accommodations Unsurpassed.

Rates as low as any other First-Class Line.

PETER WRIGHT & SONS, General Agents Philadelphia.

Louis Hoeser, 142 Smithfield street, Thomas E. Clyde, 79 Fifth avenue, Thomas Brown, 84 Cradaun street, N. G. Murphy, 78 Fourth ave., Pittsburgh. Wm. Semple, 165, 167 and 169 Federal street, Allegheny city.

White Star U. S. Mail Line

Between New York and Liverpool

Calling at CORK HARBOR both Ways, Booking Passengers to and from Queenstown, Sailing every THURSDAY from Liverpool, and SATURDAY from White Star Wharf, Pavonia Ferry, Jersey City.

OCEANIC.....Capt. Relstow.
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Passengers Arriving at Queenstown Forwarded, Saloon, $80. Gold. (Sailing after April 1, $100 Gold) Steerage $30 Currency. Prepaid Certificates, $32.

Drafts in sums to suit.

S. J. CORTIS, Agent, 19 Broadway, N. Y.
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LAING & McKALLIP,

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GRAIN, FLOUR, FEED, Baled Hay, &c.

GENERAL AGENTS FOR THE CELEBRATED PHŒNIX, LOUISVILLE and ROSENDALE HYDRAULIC CEMENTS.

Calcined Plaster, White Lime.

SOLE AGENTS OF CELEBRATED WILKESBARRE ANTHRACITE COAL.

847 Liberty Street, PITTSBURGH, PA.

ONIONS, ONIONS, ONIONS!

One car load CHOICE YELLOW ONIONS, for sale in quantities.

HENRY REA, Jr.,

Liberty street, opposite Smithfield.

JUST RECEIVED,

150 Barrels Choice Apples.

We will receive every week, by the barrel, the Choicest Apples packed to market. Also, PRIME NEW CIDER on draught. FAMILY APPLE BUTTER. BEST LEAF LARD in the city. WHITE WHEAT FLOUR, equal to any in the city. Please give us a call and satisfy yourself.

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CALDWELL & CO.,

COMMISSION MERCHANTS,

AND DEALERS IN

GRAIN, HAY AND PRODUCE,

205 Liberty St., Pittsburgh, Pa.

Orders for shipment and consignment solicited and promptly attended to.

FLOUR.

Best Brands of Winter and Spring Wheat Flour,

In store and to arrive. For Sale by

D. WALLACE.

OTTO WUTH,

Analytical and Consulting Chemist,

99 WATER STREET,

FINANCE AND TRADE.

WEDNESDAY EVENING, March 17, 1875.

The construction of the stamp act of February 8, 1875, continues to excite discussion, and the New York banks have notified the Commissioner of Internal Revenue that they will contest his rulings under the law and also resist the effort to enter their vaults in search of unstamped vouchers. The power to make the searches is claimed under section 3,177 of the laws of the United States, revised June, 1874; but, on the other hand, it is claimed that the wording of this section and the context clearly show that the act does not refer to checks or to banks at all, the articles which are the subjects of search being those "made, produced or kept" in the particular building, and was passed in connection with the law regulating the tax on whisky and tobacco. The national banks also claim that the 54th section of the banking act, after providing for the appointment of a bank examiner, provides that "the association shall not be subject to any other visitorial powers than such as are authorized by this act, except such as are vested in the several courts of law and chancery." The attorney employed to defend the banks quotes the circular of the Commissioner as follows:

Section 15 of the act of February 8, 1875, provides: That a bank check, draft, order or voucher for the payment of any sum of money whatsoever, drawn upon any bank, banker or trust company, shall be subject to a stamp tax of two cents.

By this enactment, checks, etc., drawn on time, are liable to the stamp tax, as well as those payable at sight or on demand; so also are *receipts* and *other vouchers*, taken by bankers, bankers or trust companies for the payment of money by them.

He also calls attention to the fact that section 36 of the act of June 6, 1872, repeals the whole of schedule B, "excepting only the tax of two cents on bank checks, drafts or orders," and then says:

"It will be observed that the word *voucher* is omitted in the above section, as well as in schedule B of the act of June 30, 1864, and is seemingly inserted in the late act of February 8, 1875, as a qualification or explanation to the three preceding words, *bank check, drafts or orders*, thereby identifying them as the vouchers to be subject to the stamp tax thereafter.

This interpretation is regarded as conclusive from the fact that they must be "drawn upon a bank." In conclusion, the attorney of the banks says:

"We learn that the bankers in this city propose to have stamped 'all *checks, drafts or orders* drawn upon them, or any *voucher* answering to the same purpose, as the law clearly intends.

"The attempt to enforce any other interpretation of section D of the act of February 8, 1875, will be, very properly, resisted, and in which event, the courts will be able to determine for the information of all concerned, the precise status of the law in question."

—A Jefferson city, Mo., dispatch of the 9th inst. says that Judge Krekel, of the United States District Court, gave on that day an important charge to the jury in the case of the United States vs. Thomas D. Price, a banker of Linn county, who was charged with paying unstamped drafts or checks. The Judge said that the defendant could not legally pay because to be paid any draft or order without the stamp affixed. He who pays for an instrument unstamped violates the law, and the law presumes from such payment an intention to evade. The law does not allow one stamp to be affixed after payment except on conditions specially defined. The case is said to have been the first of the kind ever brought before a jury, and resulted in a verdict of acquittal.

—The money market during the day has undergone no change, and borrowers in good standing have their wants supplied without having to wait their turn at bank. In general trade circles the outlook is brighter. The breaking up of the rivers will soon let coal now afloat, out, and large amounts of heavy freights destined for the Southern markets that always awaits the spring rise before being shipped. From the coke region we also have encouraging reports. The strike of the miners in the anthracite district has made it necessary for the iron works, dependent upon pea coal for fuel, to come into our market as buyers of coke, so that as a result, within the past two weeks, the ovens have been started and now the whole line of the Connellsville Railroad is literally ablaze with renewed activity and increased business.

—From the report of the Bureau of Statistics for February we gain the following information of the value of gold and silver coin and bullion exported from New York for the four weeks ended February 13, 1875:

	Aggregate.
American gold coin	$5,576,700 00
Foreign gold coin	199,091 00
Gold bars	178,588 53
Gold in silver bars	125,040 44
Silver in silver bars	1,990,883 95
Silver bars	556,640 48
American silver coin	2,000 00
Foreign silver coin	122,296 00
Total	$8,816,797 76

The following shows the ports to which shipments were made:

London	$ 807,657 81
Liverpool	2,317,140 00
Paris	2,880,854 55
Hamburg	100,325 40
West Indies	1,884,543 00
South America	45,000 00
Total	$8,816,797 76

—The following table shows the prices of gold, Government bonds, railway stocks, etc., at the various sessions of the New York Stock Exchange during the day. Furnished by the Fifth National bank, No. 16 Sixth street:

March 17, 1875.	10 A M.	11 A M.	12 M.	1 P. M.	2 P. M.	3 P. M.
Gold	115¾	116	116	116¼	116	116
U. S. 6's—'81, coup	117½	117¾	117¾	117¾	117¾	117¾
5-20's, 1862	117¼	117¼	117¼	117¼	117¼	117¼
5-20's, 1864	118	118	118	118	118	118
5-20's, 1865	119¼	119¼	119¼	119¼	119¼	119¼
5-20's, 1865, new	119¼	119¼	119¼	119¼	119¼	119¼
5-20's, 1867	119¾	119¾	119¾	119¾	119¾	119¾
5-20's, 1868	120¼	120¼	120¼	120¼	120¼	120¼
10-40's, coupons	114	114	114	114	114	114
10-40's, registered	113½	113½	113½	113½	113½	113½
New 5 per cents	113¾	113¾	113¾	113¾	113¾	113¾
Western Union Tel	78¾	77¾	78	78¼	78¼	78¼
Pacific Mail	38¾	38¾	38¾	38¾	38¾	38¾
Panama						114
Adams Express						95
Wells-Fargo Exp'ss			97			98
American Express		63¾				64
United States Exp'ss		57½				58
New York Central		106¼				106¼
Erie	26¾	27	26¾	26¾		26¾
Lake Shore	78¾	78¾				78¾
Michigan Southern	78¾	78¾	78¾	78¾		78¾
Illinois Central			102	101½		101½
Cleveland & Pittsburgh				91½		91½
Chicago & North'n W	45¾	45¾	45¾	45¾		45¾
Do preferred				63		63
Rock Island	105¾	105¾	105¾	105¾		105¾
St. Paul	38¾	38¾	38¾	38¾		38¾
Do preferred				72		72
Wabash, common	12¾	12¾	12¾	12¾		12¾
Fort Wayne	97	97	97	97		97
Ohio and Mississippi	27¼	27¼	27¼	27¼		27¼
Harlem	130					130
Hannibal & St. Joe	23	23	23	23		23
Iron Mountain	22½	22½	22½	22½		22½
C. C. & I. C.	94					94
Tennessee, old	64					64
Tennessee, new	64					64
Canton Co., Ap.	29					29
South Carolinas, July	64					64
Missouri 6's	96¼					96¼

—The following is a report of the prices of leading stocks on the Philadelphia Stock Board, as received by wire at noon to-day:

	Bid.	Asked.
Pennsylvania Central	55¾	55¾
Pennsylvania Central scrip	107¾	
Reading, 6's	97½	97¾
United Co.'s of N. Jersey	133¾	
Oil Creek	11½	11¾
Allegheny Valley, sales	67¼	
Allegheny Valley	92	
Central Transportation Co	45	45
Empire Transportation Co	55¼	55½
Pitts., Cin. and St. L., m. b. sales	77	

GENERAL MARKET.

OFFICE OF THE PITTSBURGH COMMERCIAL, WEDNESDAY, March 17, 1875.

The cold weather to-day operated to a certain extent as a check upon wholesale and jobbing lines of trade, although in some respects, there was a very fair business done. The spring trade has been delayed by the backward weather, and received another check to-day, which may be a very serious hindrance. Merchants here have generally made up their minds to keep from November to April very moderate stocks of merchandise until a more prosperous tone is established in manufacturing circles, and will not be disappointed if they should experience a dull month in April. Elsewhere than this spring season, opens up quite promisingly. New York and Chicago reports being especially favorable. Foreign trade reports are somewhat less roseate as the following from an exchange will show:

Reports by mail of the state of the spring trade in London up to February 27 show some slight indications of revival, but there is still a great want of activity, and but few merchants or manufacturers are disposed to extend largely their operations. We could seem to be experiencing some animation in business, as the trade in spring goods should be assuming considerable proportions by this time, but this is by no means the case, for the only impetus given to business at present has been by Canadian buyers, who have of late been making some purchases of woolen materials in the Huddersfield district. To some extent, perhaps, the weather has checked the trade in spring goods, for, after a very mild and spring-like January, we have just passed over a severe and trying month. The present week, especially, having been very cold, winds from the east prevailing, with a somewhat heavy fall snow, having reminded us that winter has by no means departed from us. At the same time, however, it is not considered probable that when spring weather shall have fully returned there will be any great degree of activity in business, for there is still a great disposition to operate with extreme caution. The purchasing power of the country seems to have diminished, not that the country has become poorer, but that wealth has, of late, been accumulating into a few hands, so that the number of customers has become reduced.

The following were the exports of the four leading cities of the Atlantic seaboard for the dates named:

From—	Week ending March 13, 1875.	Week ending March 6, 1875.	Week ending March 14, 1874.
Flour, bbls	59,230	54,212	65,971
Wh't, bu	518,466	430,348	521,100
Corn, bu	374,180	688,210	190,000
Rye, bu	15,630		1,000
Barley, bu	5,893	7,311	4,265
Lard, lbs	5,816,316	3,126,716	5,626,500
Bac'n, lbs	4,690,092	3,684,385	7,031,626

*From five points.

Values in our wholesale and jobbing markets have undergone some changes of importance, though no alterations in quotations of a marked character are reported. The strong feeling in wheat reported both from the West and the East has created a firmer tone here, but not much change in prices. Corn is getting a little weak, and is, perhaps, quotably about 2 cent below last week's figures. Oats are unchanged. Flour continues firm, and there is much less cutting of prices than for some time. Hay is in large supply, and prices are easier. Mill feed also shows a rather easier feeling under the influence of liberal receipts.

In the country produce line, the downward tendency in butter, eggs, &c., which was so strong in the early part of the week, has not affected prices to any further extent than already noted. Eggs were a little firmer to-day and potatoes were also more steady. Onion sets have appeared in market and are tolerably active. The business reported in produce circles to-day was good, being made up largely of a jobbing trade.

In provisions there is a firm feeling and a general advance has been made ranging from ½@¾c on shoulders, sides, dried beef and lard. This is under the influence of advancing and excited markets at Chicago and other supply points.

The grocery trade was generally quiet, and a decline noted of ⅛c on standard soft and hard sugars. The dry goods, boots and shoes, and other jobbing lines of general merchandise, experienced a limited trade.

The receipts of the leading articles of produce by rail since our last, are as follows:

Flour, bbls	1,740	Apples, bbls	352
Corn, sks	500	Wheat, sks	55
Barley sks	200	Rye, sks	180
Oats, sks	1,515	Butter, pkgs	104
Bacon, lbs	1,285	Beans, bu	60
Potatoes, bus	80	Hay, bales	1,330

The following are the receipts of the leading articles of produce during the past two weeks:

	Last week.	This week.	Total.
Flour, bbls	6,683	9,847	16,530
Apples, bbls	2,281	4,388	6,669
Cheese, bxs	75	163	238
Corn, sks	3,047	4,226	7,273
Wheat, sks	2,023	3,699	5,722
Barley, sks	2,181	1,291	3,472
Rye, sks		623	623
Oats, sks	8,982	14,196	23,178
Butter, pkgs	717	1,449	2,166
Bacon, pcs	5,861	15,190	21,050
Hams, pcs	350	1,331	1,681
Lard, pkgs	14,184	10,111	24,295
Hay, bales	3,263	5,899	9,162

The following quotations are prices realized in wholesale transactions, unless otherwise specified. Our small sales, dealers will charge in advance. Prices of grain, unless stated to the contrary, are free of elevator.

Grain, Flour and Feed.

GRAIN—The market continues rather sluggish, and there is somewhat of an indisposition on the part of both buyers and sellers to operate freely. Receipts are moderate, being 60,342 bushels for the week ending to-day, against 52,597 bushels the previous week. Transactions on Change have generally been rather slow. Prices are now materially changed, the notable features being a firmer feeling in wheat, and a weaker tone to the market for corn.

Wheat—The feeling in wheat is stronger under the influence of apprehensions that the spring wheat crop will be short and a short crop of spring wheat this year. The stock of wheat in Eastern hands is estimated at only 60,000 bushels. It is reported that farmers in the Northwest are borrowing money at high rates of interest, rather than sell at present prices. All these influences, with the improving demand for flour, cause prices to look up a trifle, although there is not much quotable change here as yet. Receipts for the past week include 16c; last week's receipts, 17,645 bushels; shipments, 2,023 bushels; stock, 3,699 bushels, against 2,023 bushels the previous week. Transactions reported to-day include 2 cars of No. 2 spring at 96½c; 1 car of No. 3 red winter at $1 10; 1 car of No. 2 red winter at $1 12; 1 car of No. 2 red winter, new, at $1 13; 1 car of No. 2 red winter at $1 14; 1 car of No. 1 red winter at $1 15; 1 car of No. 1 red winter, new, at $1 16; 1 car of No. 1 red winter at $1 17; 1 car of No. 1 white at $1 18; 1 car of No. 1 white, new, at $1 19; 1 car of No. 2 white at $1 20; 1 car of No. 1 white at $1 21; 1 car of No. 1 white, new, at $1 22; 1 car of No. 1 white at $1 23; 1 car of No. 1 white at $1 24; 1 car of No. 1 white at $1 25; 1 car of No. 1 white at $1 26; 1 car of No. 1 white at $1 27; 1 car of No. 1 white at $1 28; 1 car of No. 1 white at $1 29; 1 car of No. 1 white at $1 30; 1 car of No. 1 white at $1 31; 1 car of No. 1 white at $1 32; 1 car of No. 1 white at $1 33; 1 car of No. 1 white at $1 34; 1 car of No. 1 white at $1 35; 1 car of No. 1 white at $1 36; 1 car of No. 1 white at $1 37; 1 car of No. 1 white at $1 38; 1 car of No. 1 white at $1 39; 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THE

Pittsburgh Daily Commercial,

GREAT REDUCTION IN PRICE.

Now is the Time to Subscribe.

The conductors of the COMMERCIAL have for some time contemplated a Reduction in the Price of the Paper to Subscribers, where delivered by Carriers or Agents, and now announce that from and after MONDAY, JANUARY 4, 1875, the terms to such will be

Fifteen Cents Per Week.

Leave your orders for the Carrier at the Counting Room of this office.

CITY MATTERS.

FOR one dollar per month the DAILY COMMERCIAL will be mailed daily to travelers or to subscribers who are temporarily absent from Pittsburgh. The address of the paper will be changed as often as is desired.

Local Observations.

OFFICE OF THE OBSERVER, U. S. SIG. SERV., Room 23, First National Bank, PITTSBURGH, PA., March 17, 1875.

Time.	Bar.	Th'r.	Hum	WIND. Dir.	Force.	Weath
7 A.M.	29.574	15	82	N.W.	Brisk.	Cloudy.
2 P.M.	30.012	18	84	W.	Brisk.	Clear.
9 P.M.	30.167	17	83	W.	Fresh.	Cloudy.

Mean barometer....30.095 Highest thermom.. 22
Mean thermometer. 16.7 Lowest thermom.. 13
Rainfall..... 0.01

A Colored Minister Suspended.

The undersigned, ministers of the Allegheny Annual Conference of the A. M. E. Zion church, met in John Wesley chapel, Arther street, to investigate charges, presented by Jennie Fairfax, against Rev. D. B. Matthews, who was notified, but did not appear. After examining witness on the part of the accused, the committee suspended Rev. Matthews from all official standing as minister until the meeting of the Allegheny Annual Conference.

REV. M. M. BELL,
REV. C. E. PIPPEN,
REV. M. W. L. KNOX,
REV. WM. FLEMING.

To Parents.

There are several public dance houses in this and Allegheny cities, sailing under the names of "fairs" and "festivals," at which all classes of people congregate nightly. Boys and girls, ranging in ages from fifteen years upward, may be seen in these dance houses as late as eleven and twelve o'clock every night of the week. There are many ways in which young girls can visit those disreputable places without the knowledge of their parents. They can make a pretense of calling on school companions, going to see an uncle or an aunt or cousins. Now, it would be well if parents would take the trouble to ascertain where their young ones spend their evenings. If they are permitted to visit the places mentioned, it will not be long until they may be found in ever worse places.

Important Arrests.

Detective Clark, late Chief of Police of Allegheny, has succeeded in making several arrests of an important nature, as bearing upon the bold operations of thieves and burglars in that city. Thos. Lynch, alias George Palmer, whose arrest on this side of the river has already been reported, when found was wearing a full suit of clothes, which he had stolen from the house of Mr. Chas. McChesney, on Rebecca street. Also in his possession was found a ladies' gold watch, full-jewelled and cylinder escapement. The owner can have it by calling on Detective Clark. Lynch is a well-known character and has served a long term in the Workhouse for a similar offense. Two other men, giving their names as Matt Marshall and Thos. Lane, were also arrested Tuesday night on a suspicion of being the highwaymen who knocked down Mr. J. E. B. Dalzell on Stockton avenue, Monday evening. Lane had pawned the watch taken from Mr. Dalzell, and it was through this clue that both came to be in the clutches of the law.

Sudden Death at the Depot.

Last evening about seven o'clock, Officer Cotton, of the Union Depot police, observed a man in the waiting room staggering to a seat in a manner which led the officer to think he was intoxicated. Upon approaching the stradger, Cotton found that he was quite sick, and he procured a wagon and sent him to the Central Station, and upon arriving there it was discovered that the man was dead. Coroner McCallin was notified, and the body was removed to the room of an undertaker on Fifth avenue, where an inquest will be held this evening.

The deceased was about forty-five or fifty years of age; was dressed in black coat and pants, barred flannel undershirt, white shirt, with embroidered linen front, and light calf boots. His face was cleanly shaven. In his pockets were found an open faced silver watch and fifty-four cents. There was a slight cut on the upper part of the right cheek, about an inch in length, which was evidently produced recently, and may have been caused by a blow from a knuckler or slung-shot.

A Woman Badly Beaten.

Yesterday morning a woman was found in the office of Dr. Kerr, on Fourteenth, near Carson street, South Side, lying in a pool of blood, with her head and face badly cut and bruised and several teeth knocked out. It is stated that the woman went to the Doctor's office at an early hour in the morning for the purpose of sweeping it, and that after she had been there a few minutes a negro named Henry Thomas went in and assaulted her with a whisky bottle, inflicting the injuries described. Another story is to the effect that Thomas Lee, Dr. Kerr's colored hostler, who has charge of the office in the Doctor's absence, found the woman there upon his return from breakfast, and that he professes entire ignorance as to how she came to be there, and in what manner she received her injuries. Lee has been arrested, and the officers are in search of Thomas, who, it is alleged, committed the assault. The woman is said, is known by the name of Lizzie Jones, and, although white, has been living with a colored man named Johnston, who kept a shoe shop on Fourteenth street. It is believed that Lee could tell more about the case, if he tried, and that if he should tell the truth it will appear that the woman did not visit the office for the purpose of sweeping, and that jealousy was the cause of the assault upon her. Alderman Krehan will investigate the case. Meantime the woman will be kept at the City Hospital, to which place she was taken yesterday.

COURT PROCEEDINGS.

U. S. District Court—Judge McCandless.

In the matter of Louis A. Turner, bankrupt, of Somerset county, on petition filed the assignee was allowed to compromise certain suits in which the estate is interested.

On petition of Loughrey & Frew *et al.*, heretofore filed, Francis Ardary was adjudged a banksupt.

In the matter of Andrew Hartung, of Allegheny City, bankrupt, the composition of the debtor with his creditors was confirmed.

In the matter of Hubley, Adams & Co., of Pittsburgh, bankrupts, the assignee was allowed to sell certain real estate, subject to the mortgages thereon, but discharged of other liens.

A petition was filed by George W. Sweetland, of Tioga county, for adjudication in bankruptcy of himself. Referred to Register Smith.

In the case of Andrew Ackley vs. the steamtug "Little Giant," J. B. Sheriff & Son were allowed to intervene.

Common Pleas No. 1—Judges Sterrett and Stowe.

In the case of William Wilson vs. Alexander Simpson, previously reported, a judgment of nonsuit was entered.

John B. Canfield vs. Thomas F. Wallace, garnishee of the Beaver Falls Glass Company. Verdict for plaintiff and that the garnishee has in his hands moneys to the amount of $1,200 subject to attachment.

In the case of Thomas Nelson vs. P. & T. Collins, the jury found for the plaintiff for $1,200.

Robert Dickey, trustee, for use of Keystone Bank vs. John M. Cooper. Juror withdrawn and judgment confessed.

George S. Head vs. Michael O'Hara and Frances O'Hara, his wife; *sci. fa.* on a mortgage. Verdict for plaintiff for $2,856 57.

George S. Head, guardian, etc., vs. same defendants; similar action. Verdict for plaintiff for $18,852 75.

Thomas Nelson vs. P. & T. Collins. Defendants made a motion for a new trial.

Columbus Coleman et al. assignees of Gordon & Wright vs. Pittsburgh, Cincinnati and St. Louis Railroad Company; action to recover on a contract for work and labor done in building the road. On trial.

John Barkley vs. Theodore Tobias; action to recover commissions to the amount of $225, alleged to be illegally detained by the defendant. On trial.

TRIAL LIST FOR TO-DAY.

Weave vs. Bahmer; Crothers vs. Brown *et al.*; Hubley vs. City of Allegheny; Frazier vs. same; Riddell vs. same; Logan vs. same; Veech, in trust, vs. Ruppell; Amberson vs. Perchment; Scharnke *et al.* vs. Stafford; Blakely vs. Jennings & Co.; Munhall vs. Anderson; Whigham *et al.* vs. Hunter; Same vs. O'Neall; Same vs. Patterson; McCallum vs. Hahn; A. V. R. R. Co. vs. Buffum *et al.*; Nation Trust Co. vs. Lindsay.

Common Pleas No. 2—Judges Kirkpatrick and White.

The case of John Huckenstine vs. Rob't. Young, previously reported, is on trial.

Alex. Scott vs. Mitchell Graver, reported yesterday. On trial.

No change in the trial list published yesterday.

MURRAY, THE HIGHWAYMAN

His Trial for the Murder of Gotthardt Wahl—Second Day's Proceedings—The Case Goes to the Jury Last Night.

The Court of Oyer and Terminer met at half-past nine yesterday morning, when the case of William Murray, indicted for the murder of Gotthardt Wahl, was resumed.

The cross-examination of Jacobs was concluded, but nothing additional, material to the issue, was elicited.

Officer J. D. Hare was also examined. He produced the pistol he had taken from Jacobs when he arrested him on suspicion of his having had some connection with the murder. He said he knew it was the same pistol from the fact that it has been in his possession since that time.

Mr. Edward Kaylor testified that he was driving out the Perrysville road the night of the murder, when he heard voices; one of them, an Irish voice, said, "Your money or your life;" another with a German accent said, "I gots no money;" still another voice, which sounded more like an American voice, said, "G—d d—n you, hand out your money." Mr. Kaylor testified that he had since recognized two of these voices as the voices of the prisoners, Myers and Murray, while they were in the lock-up; the Irish voice which had said, "your money or your life," he recognized as the voice of Murray, and the voice which had said, "G—d d—n you, hand out your money," as that of Myers.

John Smith swore that he was employed at the tavern of Jacob Born, at the forks of the two roads, and about three miles from the city; he acted as hostler, and sometimes attended the bar; on the afternoon of the day that Wahl was shot, about five o'clock, he was in the bar-room, when he noticed two strange men coming up to the house. [Witness here identified the prisoners as the two men above mentioned.] The first thing that attracted his attention was that one of the men came up to the window on the outside and peeped in; in a moment he came into the tavern and took a drink, and soon he was joined by the other; they both took a drink; the larger man taking whisky and the smaller man beer; the smaller man had a bundle in his hand, and they were both dressed pretty much as they are now; the large man had a cap on which looked very much like a railroad cap. [Cap shown and identified.] The tall man spoke with an Irish accent; the witness did not remember how the other talked; they left after they had taken a drink, and walked slowly down the hill; witness did not like the conduct of the men, and he followed them a short distance; he was afraid they might steal something from the stable; when the men first came into the tavern they appeared pot to know each other, but when they took their drinks witness saw that they were well acquainted.

Cross-examined—It was about half-past four o'clock when they first came into the tavern; they left about an hour later.

Jacob Bonsell testified that he had met the prisoners about half-past five o'clock; that he had noticed them closely, and could not be mistaken.

Dr. J. G. Buchanan, of Allegheny, testified as to the nature of the wound. He said it appeared to have been produced by a No. 1 pistol ball, and that the ball could not have come from Jacobs' pistol.

The witness stated that the next day Wahl, in his (witness') presence, and that of Mayor Fleming, had made the following statement:

"There were two men; one of them was a tall man and had black whiskers, and the other was a short man and had a black mustache. It was the tall man that shot me. He shot at me twice, and the second shot struck me. Before he shot me, the tall man tried to climb into the wagon. I struck him in the face with my whip. I don't think I struck him hard enough to leave a mark. After he shot me the tall man knocked Jacobs down; then the short man left the horse's head and began rifling Jacobs' pockets. They only got a few cents."

The doctor then detailed the result of the *post mortem* examination. He said Wahl died on Saturday, and that death had been caused by the severing of an artery.

Hannah Templeton, Samuel Beatty, Harry Washman, Henry Miller and Alfred Hardesty, who lived along the Perrysville road, all testified to having seen the prisoners on the night in question.

At half-past twelve o'clock the court took a recess for one hour.

Afternoon Session.

At half-past one o'clock the examination was resumed.

Mrs. Moore, the proprietress of the boarding-house on Second avenue, testified that the prisoners had home to her house and engaged boarding about two weeks previous to the murder. The men were absent on the afternoon on which the affair took place, and did not return to the house until about eleven o'clock at night; that Murray wore a cap, such as has been described by other witnesses, and Meyers a broad-brimmed felt hat.

Cross-examined—The men occupied the same room; they did not have any legitimate business that I knew of; on the next day after the murder was committed they seemed restless and uneasy and acted in a suspicious manner.

Mary Kearns, sworn—Was stopping temporarily at Mrs. Moore's house on Second avenue, and noticed Murray and Meyers; read about the murder on Thursday morning, my suspicions of the men were strongly aroused; made them known to Mrs. Moore, but as she seemed rather dilatory about the matter; I concluded to notify the police myself; went to Roger O'Mara and made the matter known to him, which led to the arrest of the men.

Detectives O'Mara, Cupples and other officers also testified to the manner in which the men were arrested, their behavior in the lock-up and to their finding several articles in their possession which were identified as the property of the murdered man.

Mr. Susman, a pawnbroker, on Wylie avenue, testified to having sold Murray the pistol which he used, on the day before the murder was committed.

Squire Ivery, sworn—Live in McCandless township; on the eleventh of November I was sent to go to Shaler's, as a man had been shot; went and found a crowd in the bar-room; Wahl was moaning and talking in German; he took my hand and tried to force it down to the place tha wound was; he said the man in the wagon, with him, was an old friend; told me he had been shot by two men on the road; described them; (description as already given); he asked me to dispose of his property; Dr. Rodgers wrote down what he said, and Wahl made his mark after it, and I witnessed it; two or three persons accompanied me and we made a search for murderers, but found none; am Secretary of the Perrysville Plank Road Company; it is very much traveled; when I was a boy it was known as the Lake road; made a mark on the fence where the shooting was done; a week or two after dug the ball out and carried it for a while, but finally my little boy got it and melted it on the stove; it was like a Smith & Wesson.

Cross-examined—At first thought Wahl was drunk, but conversation with him changed my mind; do not think he was delirious; the bullet I found was in the fence about twenty-eight feet from where I think the murder occurred.

Eugene O'Neill sworn—Am connected with the *Dispatch*; called on defendants in jail three or four days after the occurrence; conversed with them; first with Murray; don't recollect whether any officers were present; there were no inducements held out to him to confess; told Murray I wanted to talk with him of the matter; a lawyer was present; he had told Murray to say nothing about the affair; Murray took his advice; when we went to speak with Myers, Murray appeared to take considerable interest in our conversation; after fifteen minutes he came over to us.

Col. Bayne here wanted to know what Murray had said, and the witness stated that he could recollect the substance but not the identical words.

The defense objected, and insisted upon the identical words or nothing.

The matter was argued and the defense sustained.

Coroner Wm. McCallin sworn—Held an inquest on the 16th of November.

Peter Dressler sworn—The clothing on the stand I identify as the same shown at the inquest.

Col. Bayne then offered a number of articles of clothing in evidence but the defense objected to having the jury see them, and the objection was sustained.

The prosecution here rested.

Another long hitch here occurred, counsel for the defense refusing to proceed until ex-Chief of Police Irwin could be produced. In the meantime Judge Ewing directed counsel to prepare their points on which they wished the jury to be charged.

Counsel for the defense then submitted the following points:

First—If the jury have any doubt of the identification of the prisoner they will acquit.

Second—If they find that the murder was done in heat of blood, without premeditation, and was provoked by Wahl, they might bring in a verdict of murder in the second degree.

Counsel for the Commonwealth also submitted that:

First—If the prisoner did the killing for the purpose of robbery, the jury should find a verdict of murder in the first degree.

Second—That if they find that the prisoner robbed or intended to rob, and then killed Wahl, since speaking in self defense, they should still find a verdict of murder in the first degree.

As Mr. Irvin did not appear, after long delay, Judge Ewing ordered the case to proceed without his testimony. It appears that he was only wanted to contradict some of the clock tinker's statements.

At five o'clock the court adjourned for supper, and to give counsel a chance to review the testimony, instructing all to be ready to go on with the argument at half-past six.

Evening Session.

Court met at half-past six, when counsel addressed the jury, Mr. Moore for the prisoner, and Col. Bayne for the Commonwealth. Judge Ewing then delivered his charge to the jury, and at 9:40 P. M. the jury retired.

After remaining in session till ten o'clock, word came from the jury that there was no prospect of an early agreement. Court then adjourned till half-past nine this morning.

THE windows of Colonel Fricker's restaurant, just now, present a very tempting sight, with their varied array of appetizing substantials and delicacies.

THE WALLACE ACT.

The Supplement so far as it Affects Pittsburgh—The Classification of Property—The Supervision of City Officers Transferred to Councils, etc.

The supplement to the Wallace act, as it finally passed the Legislature, is given below, so far as it applies to Pittsburgh. The first section extends certain provisions of the Wallace act to cities of the third class, (Allegheny,) a synopsis of which we published a few days ago. The remaining sections are as follows:

CLASSIFICATION OF PROPERTY.

SEC. 2. That the Judges of the Court of Common Pleas No. 2 of the county in which any city of the second class is situated, shall, immediately after the passage of this act, and every third year thereafter, appoint three resident citizens of such city as a Board of Assessors, to make, revise or alter assessments of all subjects of taxation for taxation for city purposes, who shall serve for a term of three years from the date of their appointment. One of said assessors shall be designated by said court as chief assessor, and shall receive an annual salary of twenty-five hundred dollars. The other members of the board shall receive as compensation five dollars per day for each day of actual service, to be determined by the affidavit of the assessors before the city Controller, and said board shall immediately after their appointment be sworn by an oath given by the said Court of Common Pleas, to faithfully perform the duties pertaining to their office. Any vacancy occurring in said board by death, resignation or otherwise, shall be filled by an appointment by said judges for the unexpired term.

SEC. 3. The said Board of Assessors shall make an assessment of all the subjects of taxation now by law or hereafter made subject to taxation for city purposes, and shall take as the basis of such assessment the assessments as returned by the ward assessors of the several wards of said city to the County Commissioners, a copy of which shall be furnished to said Board by said County Commissioners of the county in which said city is situated, and shall have power to revise, equalize or alter such assessments by increasing or reducing the valuations, either in individual cases or by wards or parts of wards, to add to such lists of assessments any subject of taxation subject to taxation as aforesaid omitted therefrom and attach a valuation thereto, and it shall be their duty to rectify all errors, and if deemed necessary, to require the attendance of ward assessors or other citizens before them for examination; under oath or affirmation they shall hear and determine all appeals of taxpayers from their assessments made under such rules and regulations, as they shall prescribe, subject to an appeal from their decision to the Court of Common Pleas No. 2, of the county, whose decison shall be final, and if the appeal shall be groundless, the appellant shall pay all the costs of the appeal.

SEC. 6. When said Board shall have altered and amended the lists of all taxable property so as to arrive at the true cash value, they shall then ascertain the aggregate amount of the value of the entire taxable property of said city, which valuation shall remain the lawful valuation for purposes of city taxation until altered as herein provided. The said Board shall then proceed to classify the real estate so assessed in such manner and upon such testimony as may be adduced before them so as to discriminate between built up property, rural, or suburban property and property used exclusively for agricultural and farm purposes, including untillable land respectively, and certify to the Councils of said city during the month of January of each year the aggregate valuation of city, rural and agricultural property, subject to taxation; it shall be the duty of said Councils in determining the rate of taxation for each year, to assess a tax upon said agricultural and untillable land equal to one-half of the highest rate of tax required to be assessed for said year, and upon said rural or suburban property, a tax not exceeding three-fourths of the highest rate required to be assessed as aforesaid, so that upon the said classes of real estate of said city, there shall be three rates of taxation.

SEC. 5. The said Chief Assessor shall have custody and control of all books relating to the assessment of taxes and keep them according to law, and all books and dates, and he shall furnish the City Treasurer, on or before the first day of June, of each year, an alphabetical list of all persons taxable for city purposes, with the amount of tax levied by Councils for the current year, and report the aggregate amounts of said taxes assessed to the City Controller at the time said books are placed in the hands of the City Treasurer.

SEC. 6. The said Board shall have power to administer oaths or affirmations for all purposes necessary in the discharge of their duties; the said assessments when first made shall remain until the next triennial county valuation, subject only to such additions and transfers and other incidental alterations as said Board shall deem necessary to perfect the assessments for each year's tax levy and, thereafter, it shall be the duty of said board, each year in which the triennial county valuation is made, to alter, revise and equalize valuations as aforesaid, with the power to make in the same all such of the said additions and transfers and other incidental alterations.

PAWNBROKERS.

SEC. 9. The Councils of any city of the second class shall have power to license pawnbrokers to do business within the corporate limits thereof, under such regulations and upon payment of such fees as shall be prescribed by ordinance of said Councils.

CITY HALL COMMISSION.

SEC. 8. The Councils of any city of the second class may, by ordinance, dissolve any city hall commission heretofore created, and all duties hitherto performed by any such commission shall thenceforth devolve upon and be performed by the Select and Common Councils of such city.

IMPROVEMENT OF STREETS.

SEC. 9 The Councils of any city of the second class shall have the power, whenever any street or avenue therein shall have been heretofore directed to be improved under the provisions of any special law, to curtail the length or width of such street or avenue improvement, and in expressing this power they shall prescribe such regulations as will permit the provisions of said special law to be carried into effect; and said Councils shall have power to determine whether the whole or any part of the sidewalks of any street or avenue, improved under general or special law, shall be paved.

SUPERVISING CONDUCT OF OFFICERS.

SEC. 10. That in lieu of any existing authority, the Councils of any city of the second class shall have exclusive supervision of the official conduct of all city officers, and shall examine the grounds of all complaints made against them (with the exception of police officers), and shall cause all their violations and neglect of duty to be promptly punished or corrected by proper tribunal for correction; and for the purposes aforesaid, they are hereby authorized to issue subpœnas, attested by the President and Clerks of Councils under the seal of the city, for the attendance of such witnesses as they may deem necessary. *Provided, always*, That nothing in this section shall be deemed in any way to interfere with the power of the law courts over city officers. *And provided further*, That any citizen sustaining damage by reason of the acts of any city official may institute proceedings in any of the law courts for redress of the injuries complained of.

NO POWER TO INCREASE THE DEBT.

The section authorizing the increase of the city indebtedness, for the purpose of finishing the water works, has been stricken out; and as there is not enough money on hand to complete the work, and no authority to borrow, operations will ere long have to be suspended.

DESTRUCTIVE FIRE.

Burning of Graff & Co.'s Ax Factory, at Beaver Falls—Loss, $50,000.

A fire broke out yesterday morning, about three o'clock, in the factory of Joseph Graff & Co., at Beaver Falls, Beaver county, Pa., resulting in the total destruction of that extensive establishment, together with a large amount of stock and material. The fire caught from the furnace stack, and quickly communicated to the works. The fire had obtained considerable headway before being discovered, and the exertions of the employees and citizens were unavailing. The building in which the fire broke out was of frame, and contained the heavy machinery. The warehouse and office were both saved. The establishment was insured for $60,000, and the loss, about $50,000, is therefore more than covered. The insurance is principally in Pittsburgh offices. The works have been running steady all winter, and the conflagration throws one hundred men out of employment. Everson's saw factory narrowly escaped destruction, some $1,000 worth of saws having been destroyed. Mr. Graff, the owner of the works, was absent from the place, at Harrisburg, at the time of the fire.

Burglaries in the Suburban Wards.

The meat store of Wm. McCutcheon, on Penn avenue, near Thirty-third street, was entered by burglars Tuesday night. Officer Wright, in passing that way, heard a noise in the store and rapped for assistance. He was soon joined by officer Reynolds, when the two officers succeeded in arresting two men giving their names as Frank Jent, well known in the Twelfth ward, and Joe Gleason, a Cincinnati "duck." The parties were taken to the lock-up and searched, when a "jimmy," a horseshoe nail curved to pick locks, a bunch of keys, &c., were found on their persons. The "jimmy" was found, on examination, to fit the marks on the meat store door. Yesterday morning the parties had a hearing before Deputy Mayor Nichols, and in default of $3,000 bail each were committed to jail for a hearing to-morrow morning.

The residence of James Neeson, No. 39 Thirtieth street, was burglarized a few nights ago, the thieves taking a quantity of jewelry, a pair of gold spectacles and several deeds and insurance policies.

FATHER CHRISTY, late of the Cathedral, has been appointed to the assistant pastorate of St. Peter's Catholic Church in Allegheny, and the members of that congregation are delighted with the change.

ST. PATRICK'S DAY.

Its Observance—A Large Turn-Out and an Imposing Demonstration.

The weather yesterday was anything but propitious for an out-door display, yet our Irish fellow citizens furnished us with a demonstration, in numbers and make-up ahead of anything of a similar character we have ever had in Pittsburgh. The preparations for the celebration of St. Patrick's day were carefully made, and as a result the affair was a creditable one, and the good management and direction of the officers was much commended. Notwithstanding the very cold weather crowds of people lined the streets and windows along the route, and patiently witnessed the passage of the procession.

SERVICES AT THE CATHEDRAL.

Early in the morning the members of the different societies engaged to participate were astir, and soon the brass and martial bands were moving through the streets to the places of meeting. The stars and stripes and the flag of Ireland were floating in the breeze in all parts of the city, while the green scarfs and badges were everywhere to be seen.

Before ten o'clock St. Paul's Cathedral was well filled. Father Cassiday celebrated mass, and afterwards Father Reardon entered the pulpit and delivered an appropriate and effective sermon upon the nature of the occasion and the duties of the temperance societies in connection with the festivities of St. Patrick's Day.

THE PROCESSION.

At half-past twelve o'clock the procession moved from Grant street over the route already published.

Professor Arbegast's Cathedral Band headed the line. Then came the Ancient Order of Hibernians, making an excellent show. The bands furnishing music for the Ancient Order of Hibernians were the Wood's Run brass band; the Silver Cornet Band, of Allegheny; Union Cornet Excelsior, of Allegheny; German Band, this city; Fox's Cornet Band, of Allegheny.

The Brotherhood of Saint Joseph followed; then came the Friendship Brass Band, of Allegheny, and then Saint John's Brotherhood.

The Washington Cornet Band preceded the St. Malacchi's T. A. B. Society. Next the American Cornet Band and the Father Lambing T. A. B. Society, St. Mary's Cadets (Point) and the Mutual Brass Band.

St. Patrick's Beneficial Society and Stanley's Brass Band, St. John's Society.

St. John's Cadets, in attractive uniform, Keystone Brass Band.

St. Patrick's Society, St. Martin's Cornet Band, Temperanceville.

St. James' T. A. Society, 150 men and cadets, 150 boys.

St. Bridget's Brass Band (City).

St. Paul's T. A. Society, 200 men.

St. James' T. A. Society, 200 men.

St. Andrew's Temperance Society, of the Sixth ward, Allegheny, with full drum corps.

St. Patrick's T. A. Society, preceded by the Great Western Band.

St. Mark's T. A. Society.

Then came forty carriages and buggies, containing Irishmen with their families, adorned with rosettes, badges, &c.

THE SOUTH SIDE.

The Hibernian Societies, Cadets of the Sacred Heart, and other societies of the South Side, above the suspension bridge, assembled at St. John's Evangelical church, on Fourteenth street, at nine o'clock. Rev. Father Donnely celebrated Mass before an immense congregation, and the pastor, Father Pollard, preached a sermon appropriate to the day and the occasion, which was listened to with marked attention. At St. Malachyi's church, in Sligo, Father Cosgrove officiated in a like ceremony, after which the societies formed into line and marched over to the city and took their places in the line of the grand procession.

The following are given as the numbers in the procession: Horsemen, 108; carriages, fourteen; buggies, twenty-two; Ancient Order of Hiberians, 988; members T. A. B. and Cadets, 1,068.

THE WATER WARRANT.

Mayor McCarthy's Answer to the Rule of Court—Argument to be Heard on Saturday.

George P. Hamilton, Esq., counsel for Mayor McCarthy, yesterday filed an answer to the alternate mandamus issued on him at the relation of Jacob H. Walker, who asks the court to compel him to sign a warrant which he has refused to sign for some $550 53 for work done in January, 1875, on the new reservoir. The defendant answers that after a full and careful investigation of the subject, he refused to sign because he was convinced that there was no money due Howard & Son, or the relator, as their assignee, on account of their contract. The contract provides that all earth-work shall be measured in excavation, and an amount deducted therefrom equal to the amount to be paid for as soiling and puddling, and that the earth excavation shall be paid for at the rate of thirty cents per cubic yard; and soiling and puddling at the rate of fifty cents per cubic yard. The defendant is informed and believes that the whole earth excavation on the reservoir to January 1, 1875, according to the estimate of the engineers, is 257,146 cubic yards, amounting, at the price fixed by such work, to $71,143 88; that the whole quantity of soiling and puddling done to January 1st is 89,235 cubic yards, amounting to $25,127 50, and that several amounts were paid to Howard & Son or Walter, less ten per cent. reserved until the final estimate and completion of the work, as provided for by contract. The defendant is further informed and believes that no deduction was made from the sum of $71,143 80. The Water Committee is directed by ordinance to keep full and perfect minutes of their proceedings, and upon an examination of the minutes of this committee, which let the contract, the defendant has been unable to find any evidence that the contract was modified or changed by the commission in respect to the price agreed on for the earth excavation and the deduction to be made therefrom. A letter, however, from John Ross, Secretary to Ex-Chief Kennedy, dated August 26, 1874, announced that the Councils had done away with the deductions. There was no evidence on the minutes either that the Commission ever agreed to make allowance for extra work, &c. The defendant is also informed and believes that a large proportion of the earth excavation has been paid for since the assignment to Walter, and also that a large proportion of the soiling and puddling was done, and estimated since the assignment, and that no deduction has been made therefore from the amount of earth excavation.

By an act of Assembly approved May 23, 1874, no ordinance can be passed except by a two-thirds vote, and approved by the Mayor allowing extra compensation to a public officer or any claim against the city, without previous authority of law, and defendant believes that Councils never changed the original contract. He therefore holds that the claim of the relator is without authority and that he is not entitled to a warrant.

The hearing was postponed until Saturday next.

THE THIRTY-SEVENTH WARD.

Decision Against the City—Judge White Dissents—The Ordinance Admitting the Ward Declared Void.

In the Common Pleas No. 2, yesterday, Judge Kirkpatrick delivered a decision in the equity case of James Kelly vs. the city of Pittsburgh, involving the validity of the ordinance admitting the Thirty-seventh ward as a part of the city. The decision is against the city, but the Court is divided—Judge White dissenting. Following is the

DECISION.

For the reasons suggested, and upon the authorities cited by the learned master, especially Devore's appeal 6 P. F. Smith, p. 163, which, we think, is controlling authority in this cause, and which has confirmation *in re*. The people *ex rel* vs. Whitcomb *et al.*, 55 Illinois, p. 174, and for other reasons and authorities which might be enumerated, my brother Ewing and myself are of opinion that the injunction prayed for by the complainant must be allowed; and it is ordered adjudged and decreed accordingly. Our brother White dissents. We are further of opinion that the conclusions of law deduced from the premises by the learned Master are correct, viz.: That the affidavit of Henry Swift, filed with the Councils of the city of Pittsburgh, is not to be treated and considered in these proceedings as a judicial finding, and so conclusive of the facts alleged by and contained in it. That the petition thus and so presented to the said Councils, was not a compliance with the act of 10th of May, 1871, and hence did not confer jurisdiction upon them; and hence the ordinance passed by the said Councils of the city of Pittsburgh, on the 12th day of MAY, 1873, in pursuance of said petition, annexing the district of Lawrenceville to the city, now, and in disputed territory, or with the same title, these proceedings called and known as the Thirty-seventh ward of the city of Pittsburgh, is null and void. That the plaintiff decree, prepared by the learned master be doubtless correct, and so it commends itself to us. It would be more satisfactory, possibly, to have the same prepared by counsel and submitted to the under side. Ordered accordingly. PER CURIAM.

An appeal will no doubt be taken to the Supreme Court, as the questions involved are of sufficient importance to demand their determination by the highest tribunal.

CITY MATTERS IN BRIEF.

HERE is the long polar wave again, knocking the persimmons off our warm-weather calculations.

MAJOR MALLIE DOBURY yesterday entered suit, in the Common Pleas, against Edward K. Marshall and wife, on slander.

LUKE LOOMIS, JR., has the sympathy of many friends in his sad bereavement, in the loss of a little son, who died yesterday.

MARCH came in like a lion and, according to present indications, will probably go out like a lamb—an ugly young buck lamb.

THE Waring Bros.' creditors met yesterday, but there was no conclusion arrived at. They will meet again on Wednesday next.

THOSE citizens who appreciate the good work of the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, are invited to aid its success by enrolling their names.

SUPERINTENDENT STREET and Agent Dean, of the Humane Society, are to have badges to wear conspicuously. They will be of the same design as the seal of the society.

AN attempt was made to rob John A. Hersh, of the South Side, on Bluff street, a few evenings since, the foot-pads knocking Hersh's teeth down his throat. They got nothing.

AN old fashion spelling match will take place this evening in the Thirteenth Ward Public School Hall, for the benefit of Hillside Sunday-school. Admission twenty-five cents.

THE creditors of the late Security Trust Company met in legal proceedings, not being satisfied with the way the affairs of the bank are being settled up. What about the Mechanics' Savings Bank?

THE body of F. J. Hauch, whose death in Chicago was announced in Monday's COMMERCIAL, arrived in the city last evening, and was taken to the residence of the parents, on Grant street, near Second avenue. The funeral will take place to-day.

G. COLVIN was fined five dollars and costs by Mayor Phillips, yesterday morning, for disorderly conduct. He had been in a dance house, otherwise a "fair and festival," in the Allegheny Diamond, and when he came out he became noisy and was pulled in by an officer.

THE decision of the court in reference to the Thirty-seventh ward will cause another deficiency in the tax levy. Last year the total amount of taxes assessed in that ward were as follows: City, $9,416 11; fire, $2,354 07; water loan interest, $3,536 42; business, $243 80. Total, $15,360 40.

BETWEEN six and seven o'clock last evening, a slight fire occurred in one of the upper stories of the building corner of Fifth avenue and Ross street, owned by Mr. Edward Kelly. Some beds were damaged, but the firemen extinguished the flames before any serious loss was sustained.

THE constables of the 1st, 2d, 4th, 9th, 11th, 28th and 37th wards, Pittsburgh; the 4th and 10th wards, Allegheny City; the boroughs of Etna and West Elizabeth, and the townships of North Fayette, Jefferson, Robinson and Upper St. Clair, will appear before the Grand Jury with their witnesses to testify on their returns, on Saturday, March 21, 1875, at ten o'clock, A. M.

P. SCEDDEL, a saloon keeper, of Allegheny, appeared before Alderman Krehna yesterday morning and lodged an information against Alderman Nathan Graham, charging him with misdemeanor in office. It is alleged that Sceddel was charged with selling on Sunday on oath of a man named Black; that he was arrested, waived a hearing and tendered good and sufficient bail, which was refused. Hence this suit. The Alderman was arrested and gave bail for a hearing.

THE NEWLY ELECTED ALDERMEN And Justices

Will find at JAS. B. DODGE & BRO.'S, No. 89 Fifth avenue (above Smithfield) a full assortment of the *latest* and *most approved* forms of Civil and Criminal Dockets, Blanks and all the necessary outfit. Latest edition of Binn's Justice, Dunlap's Forms and Purdon's Digest. Good binding and paper and latest forms are our specialties for dockets and blanks. Samples send by mail, free. Remember the place, between Smithfield and Grant, near the Court House. wrhs

You can buy Parlor Suits from $48 00 to $300, at WILLIAM B. MCLEAN & Co.'s.

It Must be Good,

for everybody recommends it, and the doctors prescribe it. We mean Dr. Bull's Cough Syrup. Price, 25 cents.

You can buy Chamber Sets from $35 00 to $500 00, at WILLIAM B. MCLEAN & Co.'s.

Reineman's New Restaurant.

Mr. George Reineman, the popular caterer, has found his present place of business entirely too small to accommodate his many customers, and consequently has erected a large and commodious building on Diamond street, immediately in the rear of the Germania Bank building. The new house has been fitted up in fine style, and prompt attention, first-rate meals and moderate charges can be guaranteed. The new house will open on the 22d of March. wr

Side Boards.

Dining Tables, Dining Room Chairs, to suit all classes of purchasers, at WILLIAM B. MCLEAN & Co.'s.

PUBLIC AMUSEMENTS.

Pittsburgh Opera House.

"Fanchon" again to-night, with the inimitable Maggie Mitchell and the full strength of the company. The second week of the *petite* actress proves even more profitable to her and entertaining to her audiences than the first.

Trimble's Varieties Theater.

This evening Mr. Harry W. Williams, for a long time past stage manager at Trimble's Varieties Theater, will have his annual benefit. A very large number of amateurs and professionals, friends and admirers of the beneficiary, have volunteered their services for the occasion, and the entertainment will be one of unusual interest. Special features have been prepared, among others clog and jig dances for valuable prizes. Mr. Williams deserves a bumper, and his friends should see that he gets it.

Harper's Magazine for April.

The April number of *Harper's Magazine* is fresh and attractive. Miss Constance F. Woolson has an illustrated paper on a summer tour to the mountains of Western North Carolina, the descriptions of scenery on the French Broad river being graphic. E. Mason contributes an article on Angelica Kauffman, illustrated by etchings from the pencil of that artist. David A. Wells prints the sixth article of the "First Century" series, reviewing our progress in manufactures. Prof. Charles Rau, the eminent archæologist, begins a series of papers on the "Stone Age in Europe," his treatment of the subject being scientific but modest. "Sunset" Cox has an article on "American Humor," with characteristic illustrations. James Parton continues his series of papers on "Caricature," dealing this month with "caricatures of the Reformation," quaintly and curiously illustrated. Edward Howland's paper on Michael Angelo will be read with peculiar interest, just now. The two serials, "Rape of the Gamp" and "Miss Angel," grow in interest. Of short stories there are three capital ones—"The Widow Case," "A Lion in the Way," and "Shinnecock." R. H. Stoddard, Titus M. Coan, Will Wallace Harney and Louise Chandler Moulton furnish poems for the number. The Editor's Easy Chair, the Scientific Record and the Drawer are all of interest, the latter containing some hitherto unpublished anecdotes of President Lincoln.

An Ill-Advised Strike.

Last Monday morning a boy employed at a glass manufacturing establishment on the South Side was discharged because he failed to perform his work—that of assisting the blower—in a satisfactory manner. The